Weekly Compilation of

Presidential Documents

Monday, February 4, 2002
Volume 38—Number 5
Pages 125–172

Contents

Addresses to the Nation

State of the Union—133

Addresses and Remarks

See also Appointments and Nominations; Meetings With Foreign Leaders
Congressional leaders, meeting—133
Florida
Arrival in Daytona Beach—148
Senior Corps volunteers in Daytona Beach—151
Georgia
Booker T. Washington High School in Atlanta—157
Community in Atlanta—154
Medicare—133
National Basketball Association champion Los Angeles Lakers—126
North Carolina
Community in Winston-Salem—142
Roundtable discussion on homeland security in Winston-Salem, remarks following—141
Radio address—125
West Virginia, Congress of Tomorrow luncheon in White Sulphur Springs—165

Appointments and Nominations

White House Office, Director of the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, remarks—164

Communications to Congress

Export of defense articles or services to Japan, message on termination of suspensions pertaining to—139
U.S. Air Force operating location near Groom Lake, NV, letter—147

Communications to Federal Agencies

Report to the Congress Regarding Conditions in Burma and U.S. Policy Toward Burma, memorandum—169
Waiver of Section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act with Respect to Assistance to the Government of Azerbaijan, memorandum—125

Executive Orders

Establishing the USA Freedom Corps—139

Interviews With the News Media

Exchanges with reporters
Oval Office—161
Roosevelt Room—133
Rose Garden—127

(Continued on the inside of the back cover.)

Editor's Note: The President was in White Sulphur Springs, WV, on February 1, the closing date of this issue. Releases and announcements issued by the Office of the Press Secretary but not received in time for inclusion in this issue will be printed next week.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF

PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

Published every Monday by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC 20408, the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* contains statements, messages, and other Presidential materials released by the White House during the preceding week.

The *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* is published pursuant to the authority contained in the Federal Register Act (49 Stat. 500, as amended; 44 U.S.C. Ch. 15), under regulations prescribed by the Administrative Committee of the Federal Register, approved by the President (37 FR 23607; 1 CFR Part 10).

Distribution is made only by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. The *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* will be furnished by mail to domestic subscribers for $80.00 per year ($137.00 for mailing first class) and to foreign subscribers for $93.75 per year, payable to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. The charge for a single copy is $3.00 ($3.75 for foreign mailing).

There are no restrictions on the republication of material appearing in the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents*.

Week Ending Friday, February 1, 2002

The President's Radio Address

January 26, 2002

Good morning. A few days from now I will go before Congress to report on the State of the Union and lay out my priorities for the coming year and beyond. These priorities reflect a single, overarching commitment to enhance the security of America and its people.

Government's responsibilities begin with the defense of our Nation. Our fight against terrorism began in Afghanistan, but it will not end there. America must not rest until every terrorist group of global reach has been found, stopped, and defeated. In this work, our military must have every resource, every weapon needed to achieve full and final victory.

My budget calls for the largest increase in defense spending in the last 20 years, investing in more precision weapons, missile defenses, unmanned vehicles, and high-tech equipment for our soldiers on the ground. I will also seek another pay increase for the men and women who wear our country's uniform. We will spend what it takes to win the war against terrorism.

A related priority is homeland security. We will pursue a sustained strategy to protect our people from the threat of terrorism. The Federal Government has already acted to increase airport security, investigate terrorist activity, and improve our response capability. In the next budget, we will do even more. I'll be calling on Congress to nearly double funding for homeland defense to $38 billion. We will complete the hiring of tens of thousands of new Federal airport security workers. We will strengthen the border patrol, hire another 300 FBI agents to help fight the war on terror. We'll provide more money so that State and local firefighters, police officers, and EMTs have the equipment they need. The American people are on watch against future attacks, and their Government will be, as well.

The third key of my budget is to fight the recession and build economic security for the American people. Government doesn't create jobs, but it can encourage an environment in which jobs are created. I'm glad the Senate is finally moving forward, and I urge it to pass a strong stimulus bill like one that passed the House last year.

Every budget reflects fundamental choices, and my administration has made choices to fit the times. We'll work to create jobs and renew the strength of our economy. We'll protect our people in every way necessary, and we will carry on the campaign against global terror until we achieve our goal, the peace that comes from victory.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 9:21 a.m. on January 25 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on January 26. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 25 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

Memorandum on Waiver of Section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act with Respect to Assistance to the Government of Azerbaijan

January 25, 2002

Presidential Determination No. 2002–06

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: Waiver of Section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act with Respect to Assistance to the Government of Azerbaijan

Pursuant to the authority contained in Title II of the "Kenneth M. Ludden Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2002" (Public

Law 107–115), I hereby determine and certify that a waiver of section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–511):

- is necessary to support U.S. efforts to counter international terrorism;
- is necessary to support the operational readiness of U.S. Armed Forces or coalition partners to counter international terrorism;
- is important to Azerbaijan's border security; and
- will not undermine or hamper ongoing efforts to negotiate a peaceful settlement between Armenia and Azerbaijan or be used for offensive purposes against Armenia.

Accordingly, I hereby waive section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act. You are authorized and directed to notify the Congress of this determination and to arrange for its publication in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 28.

Remarks Honoring the 2001 National Basketball Association Champion Los Angeles Lakers

January 28, 2002

Please be seated. Mr. Commissioner, good to see you, sir. Thank you for coming. I appreciate the Buss family members for being here. Thank you. Welcome to the East Coast. I'm so honored that Phil Jackson has come with players from the mighty LA Lakers championship team. I want to welcome you all the to White House. We're thrilled you're here. This is one way for us to congratulate you for being champs.

I want to thank the members of the California congressional delegation. I think we've got six Members here. Thank you all for coming. I know you're as proud of the team as the people of California are.

I also want to thank the Boys and Girls Clubs of Atlantic City in New Jersey and Maryland for being here. I'm just as excited as you are for meeting these players. [*Laughter*] And thanks for coming.

I first want to congratulate Coach Jackson on learning how to win championships for different teams. He's got to be a pretty remarkable guy to figure out how to win on a consistent basis. And so, Phil, congratulations for coming back to the White House.

I also want to thank the players. Being champs on the court means you've got to be champs off the court, as well. And I know these players understand that every time they do something, some kid is watching. Every time they say something, some kid is listening. And I want to thank the players who understand that with victory comes huge responsibility to encourage people to make the right choices in life. To me, that's the true sign of a champ. I also want to thank the LA Lakers for being involved in your community.

People ask me all the time after the attack of 9/11, "What can I do to help? How can I participate in the war against terror?" And the answer is, you fight evil with acts of decency and kindness. You fight evil by doing something good. You fight evil by teaching a child that somebody loves them. You fight evil by being an LA Laker that convinces somebody to be a mentor for some child in inner-city Los Angeles who wonders whether there's any love or hope in the world. That's how you fight evil. And so I want to thank the organization and the players and the coach for assuming a position of responsibility in our society.

I was hoping that on his birthday, Mark Madsen would dance for us. [*Laughter*] I actually—as I said, I was hoping. [*Laughter*] I'm afraid the Secret Service might react violently if you did. [*Laughter*]

But I'm glad you all are here. It's an honor to welcome champs to the people's house. LA Lakers, good luck this year. Congratulations for two fabulous seasons. Welcome.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:10 a.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to David Stern, commissioner, National Basketball Association; Jerry Buss, owner, Phil Jackson, coach, and Mark Madsen, forward, Los Angeles Lakers.

Remarks Prior to Discussions With Chairman Hamid Karzai of the Afghan Interim Authority and an Exchange With Reporters

January 28, 2002

The President. It's a great honor for me to welcome to the White House the Chairman of the Afghan Interim Authority, Hamid Karzai.

Mr. Chairman, welcome.

Chairman Karzai. Thank you very much.

The President. I also want to welcome the ministers of the Interim Authority who have accompanied him to Washington. Chairman Karzai is a determined leader, and his Government reflects the hopes of all Afghans for a new and better future, a future free from terror, free from war, and free from want. The United States strongly supports Chairman Karzai's interim Government. And we strongly support the Bonn agreement that provides the Afghan people with a path towards a broadly based government that protects the human rights of all its citizens.

The Afghan people have already taken the first steps along this path by committing to rid their country of Al Qaida terrorists and remnants of the Taliban regime who supported the terrorists. Yet, even as the war against terrorism continues, the world has also begun to help the Afghan people win the peace they deserve.

The United States is committed to building a lasting partnership with Afghanistan. We'll help the new Afghan Government provide the security that is the foundation for peace. Today, peacekeepers from around the world are helping provide security on the streets of Kabul. The United States will continue to work closely with these forces and provide support for their mission. We will also support programs to train new police officers and to help establish and train an Afghanistan national military.

The United States is also committed to playing a leading role in the reconstruction of Afghanistan. Today I announce the United States Overseas Private Investment Corporation will provide an additional $50 million line of credit for Afghanistan to finance private sector projects. This announcement builds on the United States' pledge in Tokyo earlier this month to provide $297 million this year to create jobs and to start rebuilding Afghanistan's agricultural sector, its health care system, and its educational system. Yet these efforts are only the beginning.

Two days ago, for the first time since 1979, an American flag was raised over the U.S. Agency for International Development's mission in Kabul. That flag will not be lowered. It will wave long into the future, a symbol of America's enduring commitment to Afghanistan's future.

Chairman Karzai, I reaffirm to you today that the United States will continue to be a friend to the Afghan people in all the challenges that lie ahead. Welcome to Washington.

Chairman Karzai. Thank you very much.

Well, thank you very much, Mr. President. Although we are here, as I mentioned in my meeting with you, invited by you, for which we are very grateful, but we are also here in a way to thank you and the American people for the great help that we were given to liberate our country once again, this time from terrorism from the Taliban. The Afghan people recognize this help. They know that, without this help, we would have still probably been under that rule. So thank you very much to you and, through you, to the American people.

Afghanistan is a good partner. It will stay a good partner. And I'm sure that the future of the two countries will be good, and a wonderful relationship should be expected to come in the future. Thank you very much for the help that you gave us during the Tokyo conference, and thank you for organizing that, as well, together with other coorganizers. And thank you for the help that you announced today. Afghanistan does need help in reconstruction. Afghanistan does need help in the rebuilding of its national army. And thank you very much for doing that, too.

I assure you, Mr. President, that Afghanistan, with your help and the help of other countries, friends, will be strong and will stand eventually on its own feet. And it will be a country that will defend its borders and not allow terrorism to return to it or bother it or trouble it. We'll be self-reliant. We'll

do good in business. We'll be a strong country.

Afghanistan knows, Mr. President, the suffering of those people in America that saw and went through the horrors of the Twin Tower incident, the terrorism there. I believe the Afghans are the best people to see the pain exactly the way it was felt there then, at the time, because the Afghans have suffered exactly in the same way. We have sympathy; we know that pain; we understand it. Our families know that pain.

Therefore, this joint struggle against terrorism should go to the absolute end of it. We must finish them. We must bring them out of their caves and their hideouts, and we promise we'll do that.

Thank you very much, again, for having us here. It was an honor, and we enjoy our trip to the U.S, myself and my colleagues. Thank you very much.

The President. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

We'll answer a couple of questions. Steve [Steve Holland, Reuters], Sonya [Sonya Ross, Associated Press].

Guantanamo Bay Detainees

Q. On the issue of the detainees at Guantanamo Bay, what's wrong with formally applying the Geneva Convention to them?

The President. I have—the question is about the detainees in Guantanamo Bay. I had a very interesting meeting this morning with my national security team. We're discussing all the legal ramifications of how we—what we—how we characterize the actions at Guantanamo Bay. A couple of things we agree on: One, they will not be treated as prisoners of war; they're illegal combatants. Secondly, they will be treated humanely. And then, I'll figure out—I'll listen to all the legalisms and announce my decision when I make it. But we're in total agreement on how to—on whether or not—on how these prisoners, or detainees, excuse me, ought to be treated. And they'll be treated well.

And yesterday the Secretary of Defense went down to Guantanamo Bay with United States Senators from both political parties. The Senators got to see the circumstances in which these detainees were being held. They—I don't want to put words in their mouth, but according to the Secretary of Defense—I'll let him put words in their mouth—they felt like, one, that our troops were really valiant in their efforts to make sure that these killers—these are killers—were held in such a way that they were safe. I noticed one of our troops last night was commenting that they are receiving very good medical care. But I'll make my decision about—on how to legally interpret the situation here pretty soon.

Sonya.

General Accounting Office and the Energy Task Force

Q. Are you prepared to go to court with the General Accounting Office to keep secret the records of your energy task force meetings?

The President. Well, the question about the General Accounting Office is this: Should an administration be allowed to have private conversations in this office without everybody knowing about it? This is a part of how you make decisions, is to call people in and say, "What's your opinion? What's your opinion on stem cell? What's your opinion on energy? What's your opinion on the war?"

And in order for me to be able to get good, sound opinions, those who offer me opinions or offer the Vice President opinions must know that every word they say is not going to be put into the public record. And so I view the GAO like the Vice President does. It's an encroachment on the executive branch's ability to conduct business.

Now, as far as the specific case of the energy report goes, there is an energy report that is now in the public arena. People are free to read it. I hope they do because it's a comprehensive report, one based upon the opinions of members of the exploration sector of the energy business; some about the infrastructure, opinions from those involved with the infrastructure; some opinions, obviously, from those in the environmental community. This is a report that collected a lot of opinions, and it was done in such a way that people felt free to come in and express their opinion.

And so, to answer your question, we're not going to let the ability for us to discuss matters between ourselves to become eroded. It's not only important for us, for this administration, it is an important principle for future administrations.

Gregory [David Gregory, NBC News].

Situation in the Middle East

Q. Mr. President, on the Middle East——

The President. Medium-size Stretch. [*Laughter*]

Q. When you spoke to President Mubarak today and expressed your disappointment in Yasser Arafat, what did he say? And secondly, are you worried that the level of disappointment in the region is not as high as your own? Does that complicate your efforts to build a coalition against Arafat that's necessary?

The President. I think members—I think—first of all, Mr. Mubarak can characterize the conversation the way he sees fit. I will just tell you what I told him. And I told him that in order for there to be peace in the Middle East, we must rout out terror wherever it exists. And the U.S. effort to rout out terror around the world is going to benefit the Middle East in the long term.

It is important for Mr. Arafat to not only renounce terror but to arrest those who would terrorize people trying to bring peace. There are people in the region that want there to be a peaceful settlement, and yet, obviously, terrorists are trying to prevent that from happening by wanton murder. And Mr. Arafat must join the effort to arrest them.

And when the ship showed up with weapons, obviously aimed at terrorizing that part of the world, I expressed my severe disappointment because I was led to believe that he was willing to join us in the fight on terror. I took him for his word when he—at Oslo. And so I made this very clear to my friend Hosni Mubarak, that ridding the Middle East of terror is going to make it more likely that there be peace and stability in the region.

Energy Task Force Report/Enron

Q. Mr. President, going back to the issue of the GAO lawsuit——

The President. Yes.

Q. ——some in Congress, particularly Congressman Waxman, have suggested that the energy report represented a wish list for Enron.

The President. The energy report represented a wish—in other words, we were doing favors for Enron?

Q. Do you agree with that, sir?

The President. Well, Enron went bust. Shortly after the report was put out, Enron went broke. And it went broke because, it seems like to me—and I will wait for the facts to come out—it went broke because there was not full disclosure of finances. This is a—what we're talking about here is a corporate governance issue. This is a business problem that our country must deal with and must fix; that is, full disclosure of liabilities, full understanding of the effects of decisions on pension funds, reform of a pension system, perhaps.

There are some on Capitol Hill who want to politicize this issue. This is not a political issue. It is a business issue that this Nation must deal with. And you know, Enron had made contributions to a lot of people around Washington, DC. And if they came to this administration looking for help, they didn't find any.

Now, obviously, we're interested in people's opinions about energy—those in the energy business, those in the conservation world, those who know how to develop infrastructure. And so we solicited a lot of opinions from people. And the report is now public; everybody can read it to determine our vision about how to make our country less dependent on foreign sources of crude oil, which we must do.

Yes, Jim [Jim Angle, FOX News].

Afghanistan

Q. Mr. President, we understand that you do not want to commit American troops to peacekeeping forces in Afghanistan. Why not, sir? And do you have any concerns that there will be enough forces to give Mr. Karzai the kind of security he needs?

The President. We are committing help to the ISAF in the form of logistical help, in the form of kind of a bailout—if the troops get in trouble, we stand ready to help—in the form of intelligence. Plus, I have just

made in my remarks here a significant change of policy, and that is that we're going to help Afghanistan develop her own military. That is the most important part of this visit, it seems like to me, besides the fact of welcoming a man who stands for freedom, a man who stood for freedom in the face of tyranny.

We have made a decision—both of us have made the decision that Afghanistan must, as quickly as possible, develop her own military. And we will help. We'll help train, and Tommy Franks, our general, fully understands this and is fully committed to this idea. So, better yet than peacekeepers—which will be there for a while, with our help—let's have Afghanistan have her own military.

Major [Major Garrett, Cable News Network].

2003 Budget Proposal/Tax Relief

Q. Mr. President, along the issue of politicizing Enron, the majority leader, Tom Daschle, with whom you in the past have said you have a good working relationship, said over the weekend that he was afraid your budget would Enronize Social Security and Medicare. That is to say, put them in specific jeopardy of collapsing. I wonder if you could comment on that, sir, and if there's any way to make this——

The President. Well, sometimes there's political hyperbole here in this town. The budget I submitted is one—will submit soon—is one that says that the war on terror is going on, and we're going to win, and we've got to make sure we spend enough money to win. It's also one that prioritizes homeland security. It is also one that wants to do something about our economy; let's get a stimulus bill. It's a bill that sets priorities.

And it is—I think there are some still upset with the tax cut, but I want to remind you that we were in recession in March of last year. That's when they officially declared recession. The slowdown was obviously significant to reach a point where we were—where the economists said we were in recession, and so the tax cuts came at the right time.

Now, there are some who believe if you raise taxes it makes the economy stronger. As I've told the American people several times, I don't understand what textbook they're reading. I believe by reducing taxes it makes the economy stronger. The tax relief came right at the right time. Now, our economy is still, you know, not as strong as it should be. There's still some weakness, but surely people aren't suggesting raising taxes at this point makes sense. I don't believe it does make any sense.

And so the budget I've submitted is a good, strong budget. It sets priorities, and it's realistic, and the American people will understand it when I explain it tomorrow night.

Yes, Terry [Terry Moran, ABC News].

Guantanamo Bay Detainees

Q. Mr. President, in holding the detainees in Cuba in the manner in which the United States is, is one of the signals you're sending that in this new kind of war, as you've described it, the Geneva Conventions are outdated and don't apply in the conflict with Al Qaida?

The President. No, the Geneva Conventions are not outdated, and it's a very important principle. First of all, Terry, we are adhering to the spirit of the Geneva Convention. When you say you're holding the prisoners in the manner you are—we're giving them medical care; they're being well-treated.

There is no allegation—well, there may be an allegation—there's no evidence that we're treating them outside the spirit of the Geneva Convention. And for those who say we are, they just don't know what they're talking about.

And so——

Q. Mr. President——

The President. Let me finish. And so I am looking at the legalities involved with the Geneva Convention. In either case, however I make my decision, these detainees will be well-treated. We are not going to call them prisoners of war, in either case, and the reason why is Al Qaida is not a known military. These are killers. These are terrorists. They know no countries. And the only thing they know about countries is when they find a country that's been weak, and they want to occupy it like a parasite. And that's why we're so pleased to join with Chairman Karzai to rout them out.

And so the prisoners, detainees, will be well-treated. They just won't be afforded prisoner-of-war status. I'll decide beyond that whether or not they can be noncombatants under the Geneva Convention, or not. I'll make that legal decision soon. But this administration has made the decision they'll be well-treated. Long before they arrived at Guantanamo Bay did we make that decision.

Plante [Bill Plante, CBS News].

Saudi Arabian Detainees

Q. Mr. President, the Saudi Interior Minister today said that a majority of those being held at Guantanamo, more than 100, are Saudi citizens, and asked that they be returned to Saudi Arabia for questioning.

The President. Well, I appreciate his request. And we will, of course—we'll take it under consideration. There are a lot of detainees around the world as a result of this first phase in the war against terror. There's a lot in Pakistan; there's a lot in Afghanistan; and there are 179, I believe, or whatever the number is, in Guantanamo Bay. So there's a lot of Saudi citizens that chose to fight for Al Qaida and/or the Taliban that we want to know more about. And so we'll make a decision on a case-by-case basis as to whether they go back to Saudi Arabia or not. I appreciate his suggestion.

Listen, I want to thank you all very much. Mr. Chairman, it's good to have you——

Q. May I ask Chairman Karzai a question?

The President. Ask who?

Q. May I ask Chairman Karzai something about——

The President. Of course you can ask Chairman Karzai a question. Thank you.

Q. Mr. President, I have a question——

The President. No, I'm sorry.

Afghanistan

Q. Chairman Karzai, given Afghanistan's history of fighting foreign invaders and its pride and independence, are you concerned about any political sensitivity—[*inaudible*]—in establishing an Afghan military? And how would you describe the ideal partnership between the United States?

Chairman Karzai. Well, we have no concerns there. As I mentioned in my remarks earlier, the Afghans are grateful that we were helped twice, once during the Soviet occupation, by the U.S., and now to fight terrorism and liberate ourselves from that menace. We are a fiercely independent country, and the world knows that. Our neighbors know that very well, and the countries in the region know that.

The Afghan request for training of our army is nothing new. Our prime ministers were here even back in the 1950's to ask this kind of training. And it's training and a relationship between two independent, sovereign countries, and nothing to worry others.

Usama bin Laden

Q. Chairman Karzai, have you discussed in regards with Usama bin Laden, and what can you do to gather more information to capture him?

Chairman Karzai. We are looking for him. He's a fugitive. If we find him, we'll catch him.

Thank you very much.

The President. That's right.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:58 p.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt; Chairman Yasser Arafat of the Palestinian Authority; Minister of Interior Prince Nayef bin Abdulaziz of Saudi Arabia; and Usama bin Laden, leader of the Al Qaida terrorist organization. The President also referred to the Report of the National Energy Policy Development Group, which was issued May 2001; and the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Joint Statement by President George W. Bush and Chairman Hamid Karzai on a New Partnership Between the United States and Afghanistan

January 28, 2002

President Bush and Chairman Karzai commit to build a lasting partnership for the 21st century, determined to fight terrorism, and ensure security, stability and reconstruction for Afghanistan, and foster representative and accountable government for all Afghan

women and men. We stand together for a new and better future for Afghanistan—a future free from terror, war, and want. We pledge our respect for the culture and traditions of the different peoples of Afghanistan, and for the great religion of Islam, which has been tragically distorted and misused by the Taliban.

We reaffirm our commitment to continue to work together to rout out the remnants of the Taliban and Al Qaida network. The United States and Afghanistan stand united in our determination that Afghanistan will never again become a training ground for global terror. We are equally determined that Afghanistan's tragic experience—where terrorists were allowed to hold an entire nation hostage—will not be repeated or replicated anywhere in the world.

The United States and Afghanistan share the belief that a secure, stable Afghanistan, at peace with its neighbors, is critical to achieving our shared goals. We agree that a lasting, permanent solution for Afghanistan's security needs must be based on strengthening Afghanistan's own capacities.

We agree that the United States will work with Afghanistan's friends in the international community to help Afghanistan stand up and train a national military and police, as well as address Afghanistan's short-term security needs, including through demining assistance. We further agree to continue to support the mission of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) to help promote security in Afghanistan. Chairman Karzai asked President Bush, on behalf of the Afghan people to consider supporting an extension and expansion of the ISAF.

Recognizing that representative and accountable national government is vital for Afghanistan to achieve stability, national reconciliation, and reconstruction, we reaffirm our shared determination to support the Bonn Agreement for a political transition process in Afghanistan over the next two years. Both sides recognize the importance of adhering strictly to the agreement's timetable.

We agree to support collaborative programs to strengthen Afghan civic institutions, working through Afghan and American NGOs to build and strengthen political structures, independent media, human rights protections, labor unions, accountability and anti-corruption initiatives.

We also agree to launch a joint U.S.-Afghanistan Women's Council to promote private/public partnerships and mobilize resources to ensure women can gain the skills and education deprived them under years of Taliban mis-rule.

The United States and Afghanistan further agree that the Voice of America will expand its broadcast of Afghan news throughout Afghanistan as VOA and international partners work with Afghanistan to develop its own media capacity.

We both welcome the role of the United States in helping with Afghanistan's reconstruction, including the initial American contribution of nearly $297 million for Afghanistan's critical reconstruction and the transfer of $223 million in previously frozen Afghan assets. We affirm our determination to move quickly to help Afghanistan create jobs and start rebuilding Afghanistan's agricultural sector, its health care and educational systems. Concrete examples of programs, in addition to our current humanitarian aid program and contributions to large infrastructure projects, that will have immediate impact are to:

- print and distribute nearly 10 million textbooks in Dari and Pashtu, focused on math, reading and science, in time for the official start of the Afghan school year in March;
- provide basic training for 4,000 teachers, at least half of whom are women;
- vaccinate 2.2 million Afghan children against measles and set up primary care community health clinics; and
- use $45 million in food-related programs to, in part, promote recovery by providing food directly to teachers and students at school and food to workers at project sites.

Our joint commitment to the development of Afghanistan's private sector will be bolstered by an initial U.S. Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) $50 million line of credit to finance qualified U.S. private sector projects. We are pleased to announce that in February OPIC, the Export-Import Bank, and the U.S. Trade Development

Agency, will conduct an investment assessment mission to Afghanistan and that the Commerce Department will lead a private sector mission to Afghanistan to help identify Afghanistan's investment needs and opportunities for U.S. private sector participation in reconstruction. We welcome a U.S. Department of Labor initiative to fund job generation and training programs for ex-combatants and women.

Finally, we pledge to enhance understanding between the citizens of our two countries by promoting people-to-people exchanges and cultural initiatives, including through the Fulbright, International Visitor and Humphrey programs, as well as through non-governmental organizations. Recognizing that the Taliban destroyed several of Afghanistan's great historic statues and cultural sites, we agreed to work together to help restore and preserve Afghanistan's heritage.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

Remarks Prior to a Meeting With Congressional Leaders and an Exchange With Reporters

January 28, 2002

Medicare

The President. I want to thank the Members from both the House and the Senate, both of the political parties, for coming to discuss an incredibly important issue, and that is Medicare. We had good discussions last year, and now it's time to get something done.

We need a comprehensive reform plan that includes prescription drugs for every senior. And the will of the folks around this table is to work together to do just that, is to make sure our seniors have got the capacity to have a—to purchase prescription drugs. That's what we all want.

And I believe that given the right focus and the right efforts, we can achieve that objective. And while we're doing so, we want Medicare to be modernized. We want it to be a system that is relevant for seniors today and for tomorrow. And it's not. It's a system—it's old, and it's tired, and it needs to be looked at in a way that recognizes we've made a commitment to our country's seniors. But we want the commitment to work.

And so, the Members around this table have all come back to town and said, "Let's get something done." And I'm so thrilled to have them here, and I appreciate the spirit. And it's going to require that kind of spirit to get it done.

I'm looking forward to my speech tomorrow night. I will mention Medicare in my speech. We need to make it work; we need for there to be a prescription drug plan in the program.

Thank you all for coming.

Legislative Agenda in an Election Year

Q. Do you think it will be likely in an election year, sir? Is it likely in an election year, sir?

The President. You know, that's why you run for office. Election year or no election year, it's time to get something done. And this is not an issue for the faint-hearted, but it's the right thing to do. And Members around here understand it.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:27 p.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Statement on the Death of Michael Hammond

January 29, 2002

Michael Hammond was an accomplished conductor, composer, and advocate of the arts. His commitment to excellence and his extraordinary talents will be greatly missed.

Address Before a Joint Session of the Congress on the State of the Union

January 29, 2002

Thank you very much. Mr. Speaker, Vice President Cheney, Members of Congress, distinguished guests, fellow citizens: As we gather tonight, our Nation is at war; our economy is in recession; and the civilized

world faces unprecedented dangers. Yet, the state of our Union has never been stronger.

We last met in an hour of shock and suffering. In 4 short months, our Nation has comforted the victims, begun to rebuild New York and the Pentagon, rallied a great coalition, captured, arrested, and rid the world of thousands of terrorists, destroyed Afghanistan's terrorist training camps, saved a people from starvation, and freed a country from brutal oppression.

The American flag flies again over our Embassy in Kabul. Terrorists who once occupied Afghanistan now occupy cells at Guantanamo Bay. And terrorist leaders who urged followers to sacrifice their lives are running for their own.

America and Afghanistan are now allies against terror. We'll be partners in rebuilding that country. And this evening we welcomed the distinguished interim leader of a liberated Afghanistan, Chairman Hamid Karzai.

The last time we met in this Chamber, the mothers and daughters of Afghanistan were captives in their own homes, forbidden from working or going to school. Today women are free and are part of Afghanistan's new Government. And we welcome the new Minister of Women's Affairs, Dr. Sima Samar.

Our progress is a tribute to the spirit of the Afghan people, to the resolve of our coalition, and to the might of the United States military. When I called our troops into action, I did so with complete confidence in their courage and skill. And tonight, thanks to them, we are winning the war on terror. The men and women of our Armed Forces have delivered a message now clear to every enemy of the United States: Even 7,000 miles away, across oceans and continents, on mountaintops and in caves, you will not escape the justice of this Nation.

For many Americans, these 4 months have brought sorrow and pain that will never completely go away. Every day a retired firefighter returns to Ground Zero to feel closer to his two sons who died there. At a memorial in New York, a little boy left his football with a note for his lost father: "Dear Daddy, please take this to heaven. I don't want to play football until I can play with you again some day."

Last month, at the grave of her husband, Micheal, a CIA officer and marine who died in Mazar-e-Sharif, Shannon Spann said these words of farewell, "Semper Fi, my love." Shannon is with us tonight. Shannon, I assure you and all who have lost a loved one that our cause is just, and our country will never forget the debt we owe Michael and all who gave their lives for freedom.

Our cause is just, and it continues. Our discoveries in Afghanistan confirmed our worst fears and showed us the true scope of the task ahead. We have seen the depth of our enemies' hatred in videos where they laugh about the loss of innocent life. And the depth of their hatred is equaled by the madness of the destruction they design. We have found diagrams of American nuclear powerplants and public water facilities, detailed instructions for making chemical weapons, surveillance maps of American cities, and thorough descriptions of landmarks in America and throughout the world.

What we have found in Afghanistan confirms that, far from ending there, our war against terror is only beginning. Most of the 19 men who hijacked planes on September the 11th were trained in Afghanistan's camps, and so were tens of thousands of others. Thousands of dangerous killers, schooled in the methods of murder, often supported by outlaw regimes, are now spread throughout the world like ticking timebombs, set to go off without warning.

Thanks to the work of our law enforcement officials and coalition partners, hundreds of terrorists have been arrested. Yet, tens of thousands of trained terrorists are still at large. These enemies view the entire world as a battlefield, and we must pursue them wherever they are. So long as training camps operate, so long as nations harbor terrorists, freedom is at risk. And America and our allies must not and will not allow it.

Our Nation will continue to be steadfast and patient and persistent in the pursuit of two great objectives. First, we will shut down terrorist camps, disrupt terrorist plans, and bring terrorists to justice. And second, we must prevent the terrorists and regimes who seek chemical, biological, or nuclear weapons from threatening the United States and the world.

Our military has put the terror training camps of Afghanistan out of business, yet camps still exist in at least a dozen countries. A terrorist underworld, including groups like Hamas, Hizballah, Islamic Jihad, Jaish-e-Mohammed, operates in remote jungles and deserts and hides in the centers of large cities.

While the most visible military action is in Afghanistan, America is acting elsewhere. We now have troops in the Philippines, helping to train that country's armed forces to go after terrorist cells that have executed an American and still hold hostages. Our soldiers, working with the Bosnian Government, seized terrorists who were plotting to bomb our Embassy. Our Navy is patrolling the coast of Africa to block the shipment of weapons and the establishment of terrorist camps in Somalia.

My hope is that all nations will heed our call and eliminate the terrorist parasites who threaten their countries and our own. Many nations are acting forcefully. Pakistan is now cracking down on terror, and I admire the strong leadership of President Musharraf. But some governments will be timid in the face of terror. And make no mistake about it: If they do not act, America will.

Our second goal is to prevent regimes that sponsor terror from threatening America or our friends and allies with weapons of mass destruction. Some of these regimes have been pretty quiet since September the 11th, but we know their true nature.

North Korea is a regime arming with missiles and weapons of mass destruction, while starving its citizens.

Iran aggressively pursues these weapons and exports terror, while an unelected few repress the Iranian people's hope for freedom.

Iraq continues to flaunt its hostility toward America and to support terror. The Iraqi regime has plotted to develop anthrax and nerve gas and nuclear weapons for over a decade. This is a regime that has already used poison gas to murder thousands of its own citizens, leaving the bodies of mothers huddled over their dead children. This is a regime that agreed to international inspections, then kicked out the inspectors. This is a regime that has something to hide from the civilized world.

States like these and their terrorist allies constitute an axis of evil, arming to threaten the peace of the world. By seeking weapons of mass destruction, these regimes pose a grave and growing danger. They could provide these arms to terrorists, giving them the means to match their hatred. They could attack our allies or attempt to blackmail the United States. In any of these cases, the price of indifference would be catastrophic.

We will work closely with our coalition to deny terrorists and their state sponsors the materials, technology, and expertise to make and deliver weapons of mass destruction. We will develop and deploy effective missile defenses to protect America and our allies from sudden attack. And all nations should know: America will do what is necessary to ensure our Nation's security.

We'll be deliberate; yet, time is not on our side. I will not wait on events while dangers gather. I will not stand by as peril draws closer and closer. The United States of America will not permit the world's most dangerous regimes to threaten us with the world's most destructive weapons.

Our war on terror is well begun, but it is only begun. This campaign may not be finished on our watch; yet, it must be and it will be waged on our watch. We can't stop short. If we stop now, leaving terror camps intact and terrorist states unchecked, our sense of security would be false and temporary. History has called America and our allies to action, and it is both our responsibility and our privilege to fight freedom's fight.

Our first priority must always be the security of our Nation, and that will be reflected in the budget I send to Congress. My budget supports three great goals for America: We will win this war; we will protect our homeland; and we will revive our economy.

September the 11th brought out the best in America and the best in this Congress. And I join the American people in applauding your unity and resolve. Now Americans deserve to have this same spirit directed toward addressing problems here at home. I'm a proud member of my party. Yet as we act to win the war, protect our people, and create

jobs in America, we must act, first and foremost, not as Republicans, not as Democrats but as Americans.

It costs a lot to fight this war. We have spent more than a billion dollars a month, over $30 million a day, and we must be prepared for future operations. Afghanistan proved that expensive precision weapons defeat the enemy and spare innocent lives, and we need more of them. We need to replace aging aircraft and make our military more agile to put our troops anywhere in the world quickly and safely. Our men and women in uniform deserve the best weapons, the best equipment, the best training, and they also deserve another pay raise.

My budget includes the largest increase in defense spending in two decades, because while the price of freedom and security is high, it is never too high. Whatever it costs to defend our country, we will pay.

The next priority of my budget is to do everything possible to protect our citizens and strengthen our Nation against the ongoing threat of another attack. Time and distance from the events of September the 11th will not make us safer unless we act on its lessons. America is no longer protected by vast oceans. We are protected from attack only by vigorous action abroad and increased vigilance at home.

My budget nearly doubles funding for a sustained strategy of homeland security, focused on four key areas: bioterrorism, emergency response, airport and border security, and improved intelligence. We will develop vaccines to fight anthrax and other deadly diseases. We'll increase funding to help States and communities train and equip our heroic police and firefighters. We will improve intelligence collection and sharing, expand patrols at our borders, strengthen the security of air travel, and use technology to track the arrivals and departures of visitors to the United States.

Homeland security will make America not only stronger but, in many ways, better. Knowledge gained from bioterrorism research will improve public health. Stronger police and fire departments will mean safer neighborhoods. Stricter border enforcement will help combat illegal drugs. And as government works to better secure our homeland, America will continue to depend on the eyes and ears of alert citizens.

A few days before Christmas, an airline flight attendant spotted a passenger lighting a match. The crew and passengers quickly subdued the man, who had been trained by Al Qaida and was armed with explosives. The people on that plane were alert and, as a result, likely saved nearly 200 lives. And tonight we welcome and thank flight attendants Hermis Moutardier and Christina Jones.

Once we have funded our national security and our homeland security, the final great priority of my budget is economic security for the American people. To achieve these great national objectives—to win the war, protect the homeland, and revitalize our economy—our budget will run a deficit that will be small and short term, so long as Congress restrains spending and acts in a fiscally responsible manner. We have clear priorities, and we must act at home with the same purpose and resolve we have shown overseas. We'll prevail in the war, and we will defeat this recession.

Americans who have lost their jobs need our help, and I support extending unemployment benefits and direct assistance for health care coverage. Yet, American workers want more than unemployment checks; they want a steady paycheck. When America works, America prospers, so my economic security plan can be summed up in one word: jobs.

Good jobs begin with good schools, and here we've made a fine start. Republicans and Democrats worked together to achieve historic education reform so that no child is left behind. I was proud to work with members of both parties: Chairman John Boehner and Congressman George Miller; Senator Judd Gregg. And I was so proud of our work, I even had nice things to say about my friend Ted Kennedy. [*Laughter*] I know the folks at the Crawford coffee shop couldn't believe I'd say such a thing—[*laughter*]—but our work on this bill shows what is possible if we set aside posturing and focus on results.

There is more to do. We need to prepare our children to read and succeed in school with improved Head Start and early childhood development programs. We must upgrade our teacher colleges and teacher training and launch a major recruiting drive with

a great goal for America, a quality teacher in every classroom.

Good jobs also depend on reliable and affordable energy. This Congress must act to encourage conservation, promote technology, build infrastructure, and it must act to increase energy production at home so America is less dependent on foreign oil.

Good jobs depend on expanded trade. Selling into new markets creates new jobs, so I ask Congress to finally approve trade promotion authority.

On these two key issues, trade and energy, the House of Representatives has acted to create jobs, and I urge the Senate to pass this legislation.

Good jobs depend on sound tax policy. Last year, some in this Hall thought my tax relief plan was too small; some thought it was too big. But when the checks arrived in the mail, most Americans thought tax relief was just about right. Congress listened to the people and responded by reducing tax rates, doubling the child credit, and ending the death tax. For the sake of long-term growth and to help Americans plan for the future, let's make these tax cuts permanent.

The way out of this recession, the way to create jobs, is to grow the economy by encouraging investment in factories and equipment and by speeding up tax relief so people have more money to spend. For the sake of American workers, let's pass a stimulus package.

Good jobs must be the aim of welfare reform. As we reauthorize these important reforms, we must always remember the goal is to reduce dependency on government and offer every American the dignity of a job.

Americans know economic security can vanish in an instant without health security. I ask Congress to join me this year to enact a patients' bill of rights, to give uninsured workers credits to help buy health coverage, to approve an historic increase in the spending for veterans' health, and to give seniors a sound and modern Medicare system that includes coverage for prescription drugs.

A good job should lead to security in retirement. I ask Congress to enact new safeguards for 401K and pension plans. Employees who have worked hard and saved all their lives should not have to risk losing everything if their company fails. Through stricter accounting standards and tougher disclosure requirements, corporate America must be made more accountable to employees and shareholders and held to the highest standards of conduct.

Retirement security also depends upon keeping the commitments of Social Security, and we will. We must make Social Security financially stable and allow personal retirement accounts for younger workers who choose them.

Members, you and I will work together in the months ahead on other issues: productive farm policy; a cleaner environment; broader homeownership, especially among minorities; and ways to encourage the good work of charities and faith-based groups. I ask you to join me on these important domestic issues in the same spirit of cooperation we've applied to our war against terrorism.

During these last few months, I've been humbled and privileged to see the true character of this country in a time of testing. Our enemies believed America was weak and materialistic, that we would splinter in fear and selfishness. They were as wrong as they are evil.

The American people have responded magnificently, with courage and compassion, strength and resolve. As I have met the heroes, hugged the families, and looked into the tired faces of rescuers, I have stood in awe of the American people.

And I hope you will join me—I hope you will join me in expressing thanks to one American for the strength and calm and comfort she brings to our Nation in crisis, our First Lady, Laura Bush.

None of us would ever wish the evil that was done on September the 11th. Yet, after America was attacked, it was as if our entire country looked into a mirror and saw our better selves. We were reminded that we are citizens with obligations to each other, to our country, and to history. We began to think less of the goods we can accumulate and more about the good we can do.

For too long our culture has said, "If it feels good, do it." Now America is embracing a new ethic and a new creed, "Let's roll."

In the sacrifice of soldiers, the fierce brotherhood of firefighters, and the bravery and generosity of ordinary citizens, we have glimpsed what a new culture of responsibility could look like. We want to be a nation that serves goals larger than self. We've been offered a unique opportunity, and we must not let this moment pass.

My call tonight is for every American to commit at least 2 years, 4,000 hours over the rest of your lifetime, to the service of your neighbors and your Nation. Many are already serving, and I thank you. If you aren't sure how to help, I've got a good place to start. To sustain and extend the best that has emerged in America, I invite you to join the new USA Freedom Corps. The Freedom Corps will focus on three areas of need: responding in case of crisis at home; rebuilding our communities; and extending American compassion throughout the world.

One purpose of the USA Freedom Corps will be homeland security. America needs retired doctors and nurses who can be mobilized in major emergencies, volunteers to help police and fire departments, transportation and utility workers well-trained in spotting danger.

Our country also needs citizens working to rebuild our communities. We need mentors to love children, especially children whose parents are in prison. And we need more talented teachers in troubled schools. USA Freedom Corps will expand and improve the good efforts of AmeriCorps and Senior Corps to recruit more than 200,000 new volunteers.

And America needs citizens to extend the compassion of our country to every part of the world. So we will renew the promise of the Peace Corps, double its volunteers over the next 5 years, and ask it to join a new effort to encourage development and education and opportunity in the Islamic world.

This time of adversity offers a unique moment of opportunity, a moment we must seize to change our culture. Through the gathering momentum of millions of acts of service and decency and kindness, I know we can overcome evil with greater good.

And we have a great opportunity during this time of war to lead the world toward the values that will bring lasting peace. All fathers and mothers, in all societies, want their children to be educated and live free from poverty and violence. No people on Earth yearn to be oppressed or aspire to servitude or eagerly await the midnight knock of the secret police. If anyone doubts this, let them look to Afghanistan, where the Islamic "street" greeted the fall of tyranny with song and celebration. Let the skeptics look to Islam's own rich history, with its centuries of learning and tolerance and progress. America will lead by defending liberty and justice because they are right and true and unchanging for all people everywhere.

No nation owns these aspirations, and no nation is exempt from them. We have no intention of imposing our culture. But America will always stand firm for the nonnegotiable demands of human dignity: the rule of law; limits on the power of the state; respect for women; private property; free speech; equal justice; and religious tolerance.

America will take the side of brave men and women who advocate these values around the world, including the Islamic world, because we have a greater objective than eliminating threats and containing resentment. We seek a just and peaceful world beyond the war on terror.

In this moment of opportunity, a common danger is erasing old rivalries. America is working with Russia and China and India, in ways we have never before, to achieve peace and prosperity. In every region, free markets and free trade and free societies are proving their power to lift lives. Together with friends and allies from Europe to Asia and Africa to Latin America, we will demonstrate that the forces of terror cannot stop the momentum of freedom.

The last time I spoke here, I expressed the hope that life would return to normal. In some ways, it has. In others, it never will. Those of us who have lived through these challenging times have been changed by them. We've come to know truths that we will never question: Evil is real, and it must be opposed. Beyond all differences of race or creed, we are one country, mourning together and facing danger together. Deep in the American character, there is honor, and it is stronger than cynicism. And many have

discovered again that even in tragedy—especially in tragedy—God is near.

In a single instant, we realized that this will be a decisive decade in the history of liberty, that we've been called to a unique role in human events. Rarely has the world faced a choice more clear or consequential.

Our enemies send other people's children on missions of suicide and murder. They embrace tyranny and death as a cause and a creed. We stand for a different choice, made long ago on the day of our founding. We affirm it again today. We choose freedom and the dignity of every life.

Steadfast in our purpose, we now press on. We have known freedom's price. We have shown freedom's power. And in this great conflict, my fellow Americans, we will see freedom's victory.

Thank you all. May God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:15 p.m. in the House Chamber of the Capitol. In his remarks, he referred to Corona, CA, resident Guillermo Sobero, who was kidnapped May 27, 2001, and later killed by the Abu Sayyaf terrorist group operating in the southern Philippines; President Pervez Musharraf of Pakistan; and alleged terrorist Richard C. Reid. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

Message to the Congress on Termination of Suspensions Pertaining to the Export of Defense Articles or Services to Japan

January 25, 2002

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by section 902 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1990 and 1991 (Public Law 101–246) (the "Act"), and as President of the United States, I hereby report to the Congress that it is in the national interest of the United States to terminate the suspensions under section 902 of the Act insofar as such suspensions pertain to the export of defense articles or defense services in support of efforts by the Government of Japan to destroy Japanese chemical weapons abandoned during World War II in the People's Republic of China. License requirements remain in place for these exports and require review and approval on a case-by-case basis by the United States Government.

George W. Bush

The White House,
January 25, 2002.

NOTE: This message was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 30.

Executive Order 13254—Establishing the USA Freedom Corps

January 29, 2002

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. *Policy.* Building on our Nation's rich tradition of citizen service, this Administration's policy is to foster a culture of responsibility, service, and citizenship by promoting, expanding, and enhancing public service opportunities for all Americans and by making these opportunities readily available to citizens from all geographic areas, professions, and walks of life. More specifically, this Administration encourages all Americans to serve their country for the equivalent of at least 2 years (4,000 hours) over their lifetimes. Toward those ends, the executive departments, agencies, and offices constituting the USA Freedom Corps shall coordinate and strengthen Federal and other service opportunities, including opportunities for participation in homeland security preparedness and response, other areas of public and social service, and international service. The executive branch departments, agencies, and offices also will work with State and local governments and private entities to foster and encourage participation in public and social service programs, as appropriate.

Sec. 2. *USA Freedom Corps.* The USA Freedom Corps shall be an interagency initiative, bringing together executive branch departments, agencies, and offices with public service programs and components, including but not limited to programs and components with the following functions:

(i) recruiting, mobilizing, and encouraging all Americans to engage in public service;

(ii) providing concrete opportunities to engage in public service;

(iii) providing the public with access to information about public service opportunities through Federal programs and elsewhere; and

(iv) providing recognition and awards to volunteers and other participants in public service programs.

Sec. 3. *USA Freedom Corps Council.* (a) *Establishment and Mission.* There shall be a USA Freedom Corps Council (Council) chaired by the President and composed of heads of executive branch departments, agencies, and offices, which shall have the following functions:

(i) serving as a forum for Federal officials responsible for public service programs to coordinate and improve public service programs and activities administered by the executive branch;

(ii) working to encourage all Americans to engage in public service, whether through Federal programs or otherwise;

(iii) advising the President and heads of executive branch departments, agencies, and offices concerning the optimization of current Federal programs to enhance public service opportunities;

(iv) coordinating public outreach and publicity of citizen service opportunities provided by Federal programs;

(v) encouraging schools, universities, private public service organizations, and other non-Federal entities to foster and reward public service;

(vi) studying the availability of public service opportunities provided by the Federal Government and elsewhere; and

(vii) tracking progress in participation in public service programs.

(b) *Membership.* In addition to the Chair, the members of the Council shall be the heads of the executive branch departments, agencies, and offices listed below, or their designees, and such other officers of the executive branch as the President may from time to time designate. Every member of the Council or designee shall be a full-time or permanent part-time officer or employee of the Federal Government. Members shall not be compensated for their service on the Council in addition to the salaries they receive as employees or officers of the Federal Government.

(i) Vice President;

(ii) Attorney General;

(iii) Secretary of State;

(iv) Secretary of Health and Human Services;

(v) Secretary of Commerce;

(vi) Secretary of Education;

(vii) Secretary of Veterans Affairs;

(viii) Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency;

(ix) Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation for National and Community Service;

(x) Director of the Peace Corps;

(xi) Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development;

(xii) Director of the USA Freedom Corps Office; and

(xiii) Director of the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives.

(c) *Chair.* The President shall be the Chair of the USA Freedom Corps Council, and in his absence, the Vice President shall serve as Chair. The Director of the USA Freedom Corps Office may, at the President's direction, preside over meetings of the Council in the President's and Vice President's absence.

(d) *Honorary Co-Chair.* The President may, from time to time, designate an Honorary Co-Chair or Co-Chairs, who shall serve in an advisory role to the Council and to the President on matters considered by the Council. Any Honorary Co-Chair shall be a full-time or permanent part-time employee or officer of the Federal Government.

(e) *Meetings.* The Council shall meet at the President's direction. The Director of the USA Freedom Corps Office shall be responsible, at the President's direction, for determining the agenda, ensuring that necessary papers are prepared, and recording Council actions and Presidential decisions.

(f) *Responsibilities of Executive Branch Departments, Agencies, and Offices.*

(i) Members of the Council shall remain responsible for overseeing the programs administered by their respective departments, agencies, and offices. Each such department, agency, and office will retain its authority and responsibility to administer those programs according to law;

(ii) Each executive branch department, agency, or office with responsibility for programs relating to the functions and missions of the USA Freedom Corps as described in section 2 of this order shall be responsible for identifying those public service opportunities and coordinating with the USA Freedom Corps Council to ensure that such programs are, if appropriate, publicized and encouraged by the Council; and

(iii) Upon the request of the Chair, and to the extent permitted by law, the heads of executive branch departments and agencies shall provide the Council with relevant information.

Sec. 4. *USA Freedom Corps Office.* (a) *General.* The USA Freedom Corps also shall be supported by a USA Freedom Corps Office (Office), which shall be a component of the White House Office. The USA Freedom Corps Office shall have a Director who shall be appointed by the President. The Director shall be assisted by an appropriate staff within the White House Office.

(b) *Presidential Recognition to Participants in USA Freedom Corps Programs.* In addition to supporting and facilitating the functions of the Council listed in section 3 of this order, the Office shall support the President in providing recognition to volunteers and other participants in programs and activities relating to the functions and missions of the USA Freedom Corps as described in section 2 of this order.

Sec. 5. *General Provisions.* (a) The White House Office shall provide the Council and Office with such funding and administrative support, to the extent permitted by law and subject to the availability of appropriations, as directed by the Chief of Staff to the President to carry out the provisions of this order.

(b) This order does not alter the existing authorities or roles of executive branch departments, agencies, or offices. Nothing in this order shall supersede any requirement made by or under law.

(c) This order does not create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity, against the United States, its departments, agencies, or other entities, its officers or employees, or any other person.

George W. Bush

The White House,
January 29, 2002.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., January 31, 2002]

NOTE: This Executive order was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 30, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on February 1.

Remarks Following a Roundtable Discussion on Homeland Security in Winston-Salem, North Carolina

January 30, 2002

Listen, I want to thank you very much. Mr. Mayor, thanks a lot. I'm honored to be here with the chief of the fire department and the chief of the police department and other citizens concerned about the safety of Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

We're here because this community has figured out a while ago that there needs to be a collaborative effort amongst providers to provide an emergency response plan in case something were to happen. I'm here to highlight the success of this community. I'm here to highlight the fact that we've got people from different jurisdictions sitting down to develop a strategy response in case something were to happen.

Last night I talked about the need for this country to have a strong homeland security strategy. It starts at the local level. And so part of our plan to make sure the country is more secure is to encourage cities and counties to develop a homeland defense strategy for their area, similar to what is taking place here in Winston-Salem.

So I'm here to congratulate you all and herald a fine collaborative effort. One of the interesting byproducts of planning for a disaster and working with the Federal Government when it comes to homeland security is, your community will be strong before and afterwards, that there will be a better health care system afterwards, safer neighborhoods afterwards.

And I want to again thank you for your hospitality. It's good to be in the great State of North Carolina. And I'm glad to show off to the Nation what is possible when people of good will and good heart get together and say, "I'm going to do my job in a collaborative effort to make my community safer."

So, thanks, Sylvia. Good work.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:47 p.m. at the Center for Community Safety, part of Winston-Salem State University. In his remarks, he referred to Mayor J. Allen Joines of Winston-Salem; John Gist, chief, Winston-Salem Fire Department; Linda Davis, chief, Winston-Salem Police Department; and Sylvia Oberle, executive director, Center for Community Safety. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks to the Community in Winston-Salem

January 30, 2002

The President. Thank you all very much for such a warm North Carolina welcome. I hope I didn't keep you up too late last night. [*Laughter*] I usually get to bed about 9 o'clock, but I obviously had something to say. I said that even though we're at war, even though we're at recession, the state of our Union has never been stronger.

And I know why. And the reason why is because we're a nation of strong Americans. It is such an honor to be the President of such a fabulous country. And I'm glad, proud to be here with you to share some of my thoughts and hopes and concerns.

Before I begin, I want to thank your chief. She has done a fabulous job. I loved it when the men and women who wear the blue stood up when the chief came out and led the round of applause. It shows that she knows how to lead. So, Chief, thank you for being here, and thank you for honoring me with your presence.

I'm proud that Tom Ridge is traveling with me today. He and I were Governors together. Never did I dream that I'd ask him to come and serve in an important capacity—and that is to protect our homeland—because we never thought we'd be attacked. But we have been. And now it's time for this country to respond in a positive way, and I am so proud of the effort he is leading to secure the homeland of the United States of America.

I'm also glad Allbaugh is here. Obviously, I didn't pick him because he's pretty. [*Laughter*] He's got a face only his mother would love—[*laughter*]—if she stretches it. [*Laughter*] But I've known him for a long time. He was with me in Texas. He understands how to manage an organization. And the organization he manages is FEMA, so that if there ever is an emergency in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, you'll get the absolute best service from your Federal Government. I want to thank both members for being here—both men for being here today.

I flew down on the airplane today with some distinguished members of the North Carolina congressional delegation. First, a true gentleman, and somebody every time I sees him talks about North Carolina in the most glowing terms, and that's Senator Jesse Helms.

And then we let somebody from Hickory, North Carolina, travel with us, old Cass Ballenger. I appreciate you being here, Cass. Congressman Mel Watt is with us today, too. Thank you, Congressman, for coming; honored you're here. My first meeting was in his district, and then I crossed the line and came into Richard Burr's district, Congressman Richard Burr. Richard told me that his mother and daddy are here. Where? There you go. I hope he listens to you, Mom. You better tell him. He probably listens to you about as much as I listen to my mother—[*laughter*]—a lot, by the way. [*Laughter*]

I'm also so proud—the other night I invited one of our Nation's foremost couples for dinner. Unfortunately, only the husband could come. We got stuck with the short straw in this couple, because the wife was here doing hard work in North Carolina. The

lady who wasn't at dinner was Miss Elizabeth Dole. Thank you for coming. My hope, of course, is that we'll be able to dine frequently. [*Laughter*]

I'm told your good Governor is here, the Governor of the State of North Carolina, Mike Easley. I know your mayor is here, because I traveled with him in the limousine. We had a good visit, newly elected Mayor Joines of Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Thank you, Mr. Mayor. We've got leaders from the State delegation. I know the leader of the senate is here on the Republican side, members of the house and the senate. I'm so honored you all would take time to come and pay a visit.

I know that we've got people who have made huge sacrifices in their life with us today, men and women who wear our uniform. We are so grateful for your service to our community.

I'm told there are some volunteer firefighters here. I'm a proud contributor to the Crawford Volunteer Fire Department. One of the things I'll be talking about a little later on is how we can encourage volunteers to help police and firefighters all across the country. The volunteer fire departments have already shown how to help. It is made up of people who understand that in order to make their community, people must stand up and say, "How can I help?" So I want to thank all the volunteer firefighters who are here today.

We're making great progress in our war against terror. We have totally routed out one of the most repressive governments in the history of mankind, the Taliban. When I made our announcement last September about our intentions, I said, the evil won't stand; and to nations that feel like they can harbor evil or support terrorists, they, too, are just as guilty as a terrorist. We not only made the message clear; we delivered. And that's because this patient Nation has got a fine, strong United States military. And this country is going to back them to the hilt in our war against terror.

We're making good progress. We put together a great coalition of nations around the world with this message: Either you're with us, or you're against us; either you're on the side of freedom and justice, or you aren't. And the good news is, most people are beginning to see the wisdom of being on the side of freedom and justice. [*Laughter*]

We're after them. But the good news to report for our side, and the bad news for the evil, is that we're patient, and we're determined, and we will not stop until we achieve all our objectives.

The first objective was to hold the Taliban Government hostage and to liberate a people. And this proud Nation did so. One of my favorite images was to see liberated women and children with joy on their faces, thanks to the United States military.

We haven't forgot our other objective, and that's bad news for Al Qaida. Our other objective is to run them down, wherever they hide, and bring them to justice—or as I like to say, get them. [*Laughter*] It's going to take a while. There are caves in rugged parts of Afghanistan where these people may be hiding. But they better not think they can hide forever——

Audience member. Give them what for, G! [*Laughter*]

The President. ——because our only objective is not Al Qaida; our objective is broader than one person or a handful of people. We'll get them. We're going to get them. We're going to bring them to justice, make no mistake about it, my fellow Americans. But the call is bigger than that. In order to make sure our children can grow up in a free world and a civilized world, we must rout out terror wherever it exists, wherever it hides.

The doctrine that says you're just as guilty as the terrorist applies not only in Afghanistan but worldwide. Our mission is to make the world free from terror. And this mighty country will not tarry, and we will not fail in our love and our quest for freedom.

I told the people last night that one of the things we discovered in Afghanistan in the caves was that they've got designs on our homeland still, of course. We also believe they've trained thousands and thousands of killers that are around the world. That's why we're not going to rest. That's why we're going to remind the nations around the world that we can't rest. We have no choice, and we're not going to.

I also made it clear that if you're a nation that's going to develop weapons of mass destruction, you too—you too—are on our radar screen. You too, if you've got a history of repression and violence and disregard for human rights and are developing a weapon of mass destruction, you too are now on notice that the United States of America will do whatever it takes to defend our security.

And therefore, the budget I sent to Congress makes a priority for national defense. Our soldiers deserve the best equipment, the best training, and a pay raise as we fight this war against terror.

I also want Americans to know that we will do everything we can to secure the homeland. And therefore, I submitted a budget that increases homeland security, increases the monies for homeland security. Tom Ridge is developing a coordinated strategy that will provide research for vaccines to fight bioterrorism, that will send more equipment and training money to first-responders—those are the police and firefighters all across America. We'll keep a closer eye on our border. We want to make sure we understand who's coming in and who's going out. We want to do everything we can to secure America, to secure our Nation.

Part of the initiative I called on will call upon people to help us with the homeland security, and I will explain that a little later. But you've got to know that every day your Federal Government and law enforcement officials are doing everything we can to find them, to make sure they don't hit us, to protect the American people. My most important job is the security of America, is the security of Americans. I will not rest until we finally win this war on terror, because I understand the best way to secure America is to find terrorists where they live and bring them to justice. And that's exactly what this country is going to do.

I also spent some time last night talking about economic security. We're talking about homeland security, and part of having a secure homeland is to make sure people can work, that there are jobs available for people who want to work. And so on the one hand, I think Congress ought to help those who are unemployed. But I understand people don't want an unemployment check; they want a steady paycheck. And so the thing Congress has got to do is create jobs, jobs for Americans, jobs for people who want to work.

You probably remember the debate on taxes. Thank goodness we cut taxes when we did. The best way—the best way to help an economy recover is to let hard-working people keep more of their money. When they get more money in their pocket, they spend more money, and as they spend more money, it helps create jobs. Tax relief is an important way to battle recession.

And for those who want to do away with tax relief, you don't know what you're talking about. You don't raise taxes. We don't raise taxes in the middle of a recession. We've got to trust people with their own money. I'm not sure what textbook some of them are reading up there. [*Laughter*] But obviously, it's not the same one we've been reading here in this room.

I will tell you another way to create jobs is to open up markets. Listen, our farmers in America are the best in the world. We've got the best agriculture sector. If we're the best at something, it seems like we ought to sell it. The more we can sell, the more jobs there are. The more markets that open for U.S. producers, the more jobs there will be for U.S. workers.

I'll tell you another way to create jobs is to have an energy policy, is to finally get an energy policy that does several things. First of all, if you're trying to create jobs and you're not sure what the price of energy is going to be, it makes job creation less certain. If there's a price spike, it's harder to hire somebody. If there's uncertainty in supply, it's harder to plan for the future. And therefore, having an energy policy makes sense. It makes sense from an economic perspective. We've got to conserve more. We've got to utilize technology more. But for the sake of national security, we must find more oil and gas at home to become less reliant on foreign sources of oil.

I'm proud of the work we did on an education bill. I know a lot of you here are concerned about your public schools, and so am I. I want the best, and so do you. I want to make sure every child learns and no child gets left behind. We worked well together.

I said last night in the middle of the speech that I was proud to work with Republicans, proud to work with Democrats. I was even proud of the efforts—very proud of the efforts of Ted Kennedy.

Now, I understand in North Carolina—[*laughter*]—and in parts of Texas—[*laughter*]—they may not understand a good conservative Republican like me saying nice things about liberal Ted Kennedy. [*Laughter*] But I'm going to tell you something: He cares about public schools like I do. He, too, doesn't want any child left behind. We set aside our parties and focused on America and did what was right for the schoolchildren of America.

A good job means good education. A good education means good jobs. In order to have good jobs, you've got to have a good education system. And so, therefore, we passed a good piece of legislation—provides more money for at-risk kids but also trusts the good people of North Carolina to make the decisions for the children of North Carolina. The people who care more about the children who live in Winston-Salem are the moms and dads and community leaders of Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

And we've obviously got more to do, and we're going to get a lot done if we focus on America, if we focus on results, if we don't play the politics of the old days where you try to tear the other guy down in order to get ahead. We've got to get rid of that attitude in Washington, and when we do, the country will be better off for it.

And that's what the country expects. This country expects the best—the best. This country is taking an assessment right now of what's important. The evil ones thought that we were weak. They didn't understand us. As I say, they were probably watching too much daytime TV. [*Laughter*] This is a strong nation. This is a compassionate nation. This is a decent nation. And this is a nation that will not let terrorists change our way of life.

As a matter of fact, what the terrorists have done has caused us to take an assessment of what's important. And one of the things of my job is to capture this new spirit. I had been concerned for too long about a culture that says, if it feels good, just go ahead and do it. I believe that this Nation is strong enough and focused enough and dedicated enough to usher in a culture that says, each of us are responsible for the decisions we make in life.

Part of our responsibility understands that if you happen to be a mom or a dad, that your most important job will be to love your children with all your heart and all your soul.

Part of our responsibility is corporate responsibility. And corporate America must be open about its books and accounting systems, so that shareholders and employees know the full truth about what's going on on balance sheets.

Part of being a responsible society—part of being a responsible society is for people to love your neighbor just like you'd like to be loved yourself. And part of being a responsible society is to serve your community. And so my call to America is, I hope and ask that you serve your community you live in and your Nation by 2 years of service, 4,000 hours of service over your lifetime.

Now, many of you do that, I know. Many of you go to your Sunday school class and figure out ways to help a neighbor in need. Some of you walk across the street to a shut-in and say, "I love you. Can I care for you?" Many of you mentor. I hope you keep doing that. That's part of the 4,000 hours I asked for you to do for your Nation, for the good of your community.

Some don't know where to start, and I've got, obviously, a good idea, and that is for the USA Freedom Corps. It's a chance to serve your Nation in three different ways.

One is to be a part of making sure your community is prepared for any emergency that might happen. I went over with the chief today earlier and saw a community collaboration that is very strong and powerful that you have here in Winston-Salem. You need to be proud of it, proud of the fact that your police chief and your fire chief and your mayor, your emergency responders, the National Guard have developed a—hospitals and docs and nurses—have developed an emergency response plan, a plan that will help the citizens deal with an emergency, should it occur here in Winston-Salem. It's an integral part of preparing your community.

By the way, by preparing your community for an emergency, you also leave a legacy behind that will make your community better. The more the police and fire work together, the more likely it is your communities will be safe.

But one of the things we're asking is for people to volunteer. Ex-policemen or ex-firefighters, retired docs or nurses, make yourself available to be a part of your emergency response teams in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, or any other community in North Carolina or the country, for that matter.

A second way that we can serve our community is through AmeriCorps. I want to expand the size of AmeriCorps by 200,000 volunteers, many of whom will end up teaching in inner-city schools. I'm going to Atlanta, Georgia, tomorrow to herald a great program called Teach For America. It is a place where youngsters—or oldsters, for that matter—who are interested in serving their community can teach. I can't think of a more noble profession and a better way to serve your community than teaching.

We're going to expand Senior Corps, as well, to give our seniors a chance to continue to lend their expertise and judgment and wisdom in the communities in which they live.

And finally, I believe that one thing we must do—and I spent some time talking about it last night—was to expand the Peace Corps, revitalize the mission, encourage the Peace Corps to go into the Islamic world to spread the message of economic development and really share the compassion of a great nation, and that is America.

These are ways you can help. These are ways that you can be a part of serving your Nation.

Along these lines, I've asked a friend of mine who has served my administration well to be the Director, the Executive Director of this USA Freedom Corps. He is an integral part of our team. And by taking him off the Domestic Policy Council and putting him in charge of USA Freedom, I am obviously making a strong commitment to the future of this organization. He'll be held accountable. When we say we're going to get more people involved, I'll be asking him on a regular basis, "How are we doing? If we're not doing that well, how come? What can we do to make it better?" But I'd like you to welcome the new Executive Director, John Bridgeland. [*Applause*]

Now, in order to make sure people who want to sign up—if you listened to the speech last night, you know, people were saying, "Well, gosh, that's nice. He called me to action. Where do I look?" Well, here's where: at usafreedomcorps.gov. If you want to find out how you can join the USA Freedom Corps or, for that matter, figure out how to help to serve your community outside of the USA Freedom Corps—because, as I understand, we've got it tied into websites, for example, the community services in Winston-Salem—dial up usafreedomcorps.gov.

Or you can call this number—it sounds like I'm making a pitch, and I am. [*Laughter*] This is the right thing to do for America: 1–877–USA–CORPS. If somebody out there is interested in figuring out how to serve, it's 1–877–USA–CORPS.

Now, people ask me all the time, "What can I do to help? How can I be a part?" And oh, by the way, I look forward to working with my old rival on this initiative. One of the things that John McCain spent a lot of time talking about when we ran against each other and still spends a lot of time talking about is service. He's a man who understood service to his country. He's a man who knows that America will be better off as we serve our country. And I look forward to working with Senator McCain and Senator Bayh of Indiana to get this legislation through the Congress.

People, though, come up to me all the time and say, "Well, gosh, that's good. We're winning." I say, "We are, and we've got a lot more to do, and it's going to take a while." They say, "What can I do to help?" You know, you've heard me talk about this, probably, but I really, truly view this as a conflict between good and evil. And there really isn't much middle ground—like none. [*Laughter*] The people we fight are evil people. They have no regard for human life. They believe in tyranny. Their history has shown exactly what I'm talking about. Imagine a society where women are brutalized, children aren't educated, young girls have no chance of getting an education. It is a backward, barbaric

point of view. And those are the kind of people—but the people we're after embraced that point of view.

And obviously, if you want to fight evil, we've figured out a way to do so militarily. That's one way. But at home, you fight evil with acts of goodness. You overcome the evil in society by doing something to help somebody. It's the collection—what I called last night the momentum of a million acts of kindness. That's the collective soul of the country, millions of acts of kindness and decency that take place not because of the Government but because this is a nation of heart, a nation that cares, a nation of fine, fine people.

If people want to fight terror, do something kind for a neighbor; join the USA Freedom Corps; love somebody; mentor a child; stand up to evil with acts of goodness and kindness. Not only will our country be better, but we'll show the world—we will show the world that values, universal values, must be respected and must be adhered to. And as a result, the world will be more peaceful. History has called us to action, and action we will take.

It is such an honor—I want to repeat where I started—it is such an honor to be the President of such a great land, to be given the opportunity to lead a land full of such great people. Fight on, America. I love you.

God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:15 p.m. at the Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum. In his remarks, he referred to Linda Davis, chief, Winston-Salem Police Department; Martha and David Burr, parents of Representative Richard Burr; former Senator Bob Dole and his wife, Elizabeth Dole, candidate for U.S. Senator for North Carolina; Mayor J. Allen Joines of Winston-Salem; Patrick J. Ballantine, senate minority leader, North Carolina General Assembly; and John Gist, chief, Winston-Salem Fire Department.

Statement on the National Economy

January 30, 2002

Today's GDP report is positive, but we cannot take growth and job creation for granted. For the sake of America's workers, I call on Congress to pass an economic security package that will protect American jobs and prosperity because I remain concerned about the economy. I'm pleased that consumer spending contributed to today's report, demonstrating that last year's bipartisan tax relief plan was the right thing to do for the American people and the American economy.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on the United States Air Force Operating Location Near Groom Lake, Nevada

January 30, 2002

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

Consistent with section 6001(a) of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) (the "Act"), as amended, 42 U.S.C. 6961(a), notification is hereby given that on September 18, 2001, I issued Presidential Determination 2001–27 (copy attached) and thereby exercised the authority to grant certain exemptions under section 6001(a) of the Act.

Presidential Determination 2001–27 exempted the United States Air Force's operating location near Groom Lake, Nevada, from any Federal, State, interstate, or local hazardous or solid waste laws that might require the disclosure of classified information concerning that operating location to unauthorized persons. Information concerning activities at the operating location near Groom Lake has been properly determined to be classified, and its disclosure would be harmful to national security. Continued protection of this information is, therefore, in the paramount interest of the United States.

The determination was not intended to imply that, in the absence of a Presidential exemption, RCRA or any other provision of law permits or requires the disclosure of classified information to unauthorized persons. The determination also was not intended to limit the applicability or enforcement of any requirement of law applicable to the Air Force's operating location near Groom Lake except those provisions, if any, that might require the disclosure of classified information.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate. An original was not available for verification of the content of this letter.

Remarks on Arrival in Daytona Beach, Florida

January 30, 2002

The President. Thank you all. I'm glad to be back in the great State of Florida. I love to come to States where they've got a great Governor. As Americans make their travel plans, more of us need to think about coming to Florida.

One of the last times I came was when I went to the racetrack owned by Mr. France, right next door to here, where Teresa's good husband was driving cars. It was such an honor to be with Mr. France and his wife and Teresa Earnhardt. And may God rest Dale's soul, and may God bless her family, too.

I don't know if you all know this, but you sent a good one up to represent you in Congress, John Mica. And I appreciate John being here. In politics, they've got the talkers, and they've got the doers. John is a doer. I worked closely with him on an airport security bill that will make sure that, when Americans get on their airplanes, it is as safe as can possibly be. And I want to thank John for his leadership and his hard work on this vital piece of legislation.

I know we've got some from the statehouse in particular—the Speaker of the House Feeney. I'm so honored that people came down from Tallahassee to say hello to Jeb's "little" big brother. [*Laughter*] I am so thrilled to be here.

I hope I didn't speak to long last night.

Audience members. No-o-o!

The President. I didn't mean to keep people up too late, but I had something to say. The state of our Union is strong; this is a great nation. We've got some challenges ahead, but this country is going to rise to the challenges.

We've got a big task ahead, and that is to rid the world of terror. I know people say, "What does that mean?" Well, it means that in order to keep America safe, we've got to make it clear to any person who thinks they want to be a terrorist that this great Nation and its coalition will find you and bring you to justice. It means that if you harbor a terrorist, if you feed a terrorist, if you hide a terrorist, you're just as guilty as a terrorist.

Our mission is more than just Afghanistan, although we've been pretty darn successful there, thanks to the United States military. And for those of you who have a loved one in our military or in the military, I want to thank you from the bottom of our heart. I'm so proud—I'm so proud of the men and women who wear our uniform.

And you need to be proud, too. We've sent them into a tough mission, and they've accomplished that mission exactly the way that I hoped they would. We routed the Taliban, and by the way, there's nothing that makes me more joyous than to know our great military have been liberators, liberators of oppressed women and children, liberating people from the clutches of one of the most barbaric regimes in the history of mankind.

We're still in that theater. We will be in that theater with our military until we bring Al Qaida to justice. This is a dangerous phase of the first theater in the war on terror because there's a lot of caves. And we're trying to find people who, on the one hand, send youngsters to their death and, on the other hand, hide. On the one hand, they say, "It's okay for you to go kill yourself." And on the other hand, they're running and hiding.

But see, what they don't understand about this Nation is we are patient; we are determined; we are steadfast. We're going to keep them running, and one of these days, we'll bring them to justice.

But the mission is more than just Afghanistan and Al Qaida. We need not be focused on one person, because we're fighting for freedom and civilized civilization. We fight to make sure our children and our children's children can grow up in a peaceful world, a world based upon values that respect dignity of life and the individual—values, universal values.

We fight evil people, people who want to murder us, people who hate America and what we stand for. And that's why we'll be relentless and steady. The world looks to us for leadership. If we blink, they may go to

sleep. That's why we're not going to blink. That's why we're going to be after them. That's why we're going to disrupt their finances. That's why we're going to hold people account. That's why we're going to say, "If you develop weapons of mass destruction and you aim and ruin the security of us or our allies, we will hold you accountable." That's why this Nation is going to stand tall and strong and not relent in the face of terror.

My biggest job is to secure our homeland. I walk into that magnificent Oval Office in the morning, and I look at a threat assessment, where the enemy may try to hit us again. And make no mistake about it, they'd like to. My biggest job is to rally the resources of our Government to prevent anything from happening to the innocent life in America. And I take it seriously, and so does our Government. We're doing everything in our power to seek down leads, to alert people if necessary, to gather as much intelligence as we can and share it quickly.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation's major mission now is to keep the homeland safe, is to prevent another attack. So for all the law enforcement officials who are here, I want to thank you very much for your diligence, your hard work, for keeping your eyes and ears alert.

Traveling around the country, talking about a homeland initiative that's going to enhance more spending for—to fight bioterrorism; more money for first-responders, like the fire and the police, to make sure the emergency plans are in place; more money for the health agencies around the country; more money to make sure that we understand who's coming into our country and who leaves our country; more money—[*applause*] No, they've put us on notice, and we're after them. The best way to secure our homeland in the long term, however, is to take this war wherever a terrorist tries to hide and get them. And that's exactly what we're going to do.

I sent a budget—one of the things a President does is put out a budget. I sent a budget up. It starts with this number one priority: If you wear our uniform, you deserve the best training, the best equipment, and another pay raise. The second budget request I put in there is for a homeland security, and the third is for job security. I know there are some people hurting in this State, and my interest is to make sure we do wise things to increase the job base. We're going to help people with an unemployment check, but what Americans want is a steady paycheck.

Oh, I know there's been a lot of talk about, you know, revenues here and spending here and all that. Let me just tell you something about the tax relief plan that you helped us pass. Thank goodness we passed it. It came at the right time. If you want to fight off a recession, if you're interested in job creation, one of the best ways to do so is to let people keep their own money so they can spend it and therefore create more jobs.

We did exactly the right thing in Washington, DC. We made the exact right decision. I know there are some who have got a different theory about economics; that is, if you take more money out of people's pockets and increase the size of Government, the economy recovers. That's not what we think. That's not—and most economists will tell you if you encourage a tax rise in times of recession, it will make matters worse. That's economics 101. Evidently, some of them up there forgot to pick up the textbook. [*Laughter*] This tax cut says we trust people with their own money, and it also reminds people that we're dealing not with the Government's money but with the people's money.

We need to stimulate more economic growth by encouraging investment in plant and equipment, which means jobs, and by stimulating consumer spending by accelerating the tax relief plan, which means jobs. Jobs is the central core of any stimulus package.

And let me remind you something else about jobs. In order to make sure people can find work and the job base of America expands, folks, we need an energy policy. We need a policy that has reliable energy for America. Imagine an employer wondering whether or not they're going to run out of energy. That person is not likely to hire somebody. Or if we get tight on energy, the price of energy goes up—it means somebody is not going to be able to find work. We need an energy policy. We need to encourage conservation. We need to build infrastructure,

and we need to encourage exploration amongst—in the United States. A good energy policy is job security. But a good energy policy that reduces dependency upon foreign oil is a matter of national security, as well.

Like I said last night, I have been in awe of the American people.

Audience member. We love you! [*Laughter*]

The President. I'm at a loss for words. I'm speechless. [*Laughter*] May be hard to believe, after 49 minutes of talking last night. [*Laughter*] But I do want to tell you that this is a fabulous land, as you know. And we've got a great opportunity. The enemy hit us. As I like to kind of tease the enemy, they must have been watching too much daytime TV. They thought we were soft. They thought we were materialistic. They thought we wouldn't fight for what we believed. They thought we would cower in the face of terror. And my, my, are they wrong. Quite the contrary has happened. This great Nation is unified and steadfast, and this Nation understands that if you want to fight evil, you do so with acts of goodness.

I'm asked all the time, "What can I do to help?" People say, "Well, gosh, I want to be a part of the war against terror." And my answer is: Love somebody; be a good mother or dad. I answered the call last night for—many of you, I know, are spending a lot of time in your communities and helping people in need, worrying about kids in school, helping the schools, teaching in the schools, perhaps. But I'm calling on America—and I did last night, and I will continue to do so—to serve 2 years, or 4,000 hours, for the rest of your life, in service to your community.

And if you don't have a place, we've started what's called the USA Freedom Corps. It's a chance for retired police officers or firemen to help out the local law enforcement authorities to be on alert. I'll give you an interesting idea that took place in Maine. They've got—Maine lobstermen are now patrolling the coast on a volunteer basis to make sure that somebody in a—somebody carrying something they don't want to carry in a boat shows up on the coast.

I mean, there's all kinds of ways to serve the community. We're looking for people to be mentors. We're looking for teachers to teach in neighborhoods that may need teachers. Tomorrow—I'm here because I want to go by a Senior Corps program where senior citizens are signed up to help lend their talents and their valuable experience in the communities. There's all kinds of ways, all kinds of ways, that Americans can serve their communities and their neighborhoods. And by doing so, we stand square in the face of evil. We tell the enemy, "You can't get us. You think so—you think you can tear down the spirit of America, but quite the contrary. We are stronger than we have ever been as a nation."

Nobody wishes this evil had ever happened, but as a result of evil, there's some amazing things that are taking place in America. People have really begun to challenge the culture of the past that said, "If it feels good, do it," to welcome a new culture that says, "I'm responsible for the decisions I make in life."

This Nation has a chance—this Nation, this great Nation has a chance to help change the culture. We have a chance to stand up for being a mom or dad by just loving your kids more. We have a chance to fight evil by walking across the street to a shut-in, saying, "Somebody cares." We have a chance to say to the thousands of children whose moms or dads and parents, to match them with a mentor—in prison—and match them with a mentor, so these youngsters know there's hope in our society, that they know there's love.

We have a chance to change our culture for the better. We have a chance to turn this evil—to turn the evil deeds and the evil acts into incredible, long-term good for our Nation. I ask you to seize the moment. I ask you to understand that we've got to be patient; we've got to be steadfast in our drive overseas; and we've got to be loving and decent and compassionate at home. And when we do—and when we do, we will have proved to the world once again that every time, good overcomes evil.

It is such an honor to be here, back in Daytona Beach. And it's such an honor to be the President of the greatest Nation on the face of the Earth. May God bless you all, and may God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:35 p.m. in the Daytona Beach Jet Center Corporate Hangar at Daytona Beach International Airport. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. Jeb Bush of Florida; William C. France, chairman and chief executive officer, International Speedway Corp. and NASCAR, and his wife, Betty Jane; Teresa Earnhardt, widow of NASCAR champion Dale Earnhardt; and Speaker Tom Feeney, Florida House of Representatives.

Remarks to Senior Corps Volunteers in Daytona Beach

January 31, 2002

The President. Thank you all very much. Please be seated. Well, it's good to be here with my little brother. [*Laughter*] Last night when we arrived, I had the honor of saying hello to, it looked like, a couple thousand citizens there. And I said I always like to go to States that have got a really good Governor. [*Laughter*] And I did.

I want all the moms here to know that any success I've had, any success Jeb has had, is the result of having a strong mother. So my advice to the young in Florida is, always listen to your mother. [*Laughter*]

Jeb and I know one thing, and that is that America can change, one heart, one soul at a time. We understand that a compassionate tomorrow and a safe tomorrow requires Presidents and Governors and mayors and county officials to rally the true strength of the country, which is our people.

You know, the enemy hit us the other day, a while ago. They didn't understand America. They thought we were weak and materialistic and soft. Instead, they have found a patient, determined, compassionate nation that stands in the way of their efforts to spread evil.

In my State of the Union Address the other night, I chose to spend time talking about the spirit of unity in our country. To me, it is one of the most—as I said, I stand in awe of the American people, individually and collectively. I know—I know how strong we are as a nation. And now our job is to take that spirit and extend it for years to come.

I like to describe it this way: Our culture has said, if it feels good, do it. Our dream or my dream for the country is that we usher in a culture that says, each of us are responsible for the decisions we make in life. We're responsible for loving our children. We are responsible for serving goals greater than ourself, and that means becoming involved in the communities in which we live.

And so we're here today in Volusia County to herald a Senior Corps program that embodies the spirit that I was defining in my speech, a program that recognizes the power of recruiting volunteers to work side by side with police and fire and emergency rescuers to make sure that this county is more secure in its future.

I want to thank Terry White, who is the Florida secretary of elder affairs. I mention the Florida office because we understand at the Federal Government, since I had been a Governor, that sometimes the Federal Government can help, and sometimes it can get in the way. I want to be—I want to have an administration that helps and doesn't thwart the efforts of local people. So I look forward to working with your Governor, and I look forward to working with the cabinet he's put together, to pass power out of Washington to local governments. The government that's closest to the people is that which works the best, as far as we're concerned.

And somebody who understands that is Congressman John Mica, and I want to thank John for being here, as well. I want to say a word about John. One of the—obviously, right after the attack, we realized the Federal Government had a responsibility to make sure our air travel was more secure. And as a result of his leadership and the leadership of others—but John had a major role to play—I was able to sign a good airline security bill that made traffic as secure as it possibly could be.

And thanks to the result of our efforts, Brother was informing me today that people are beginning to travel more, coming back to this great destination State called Florida. I'm glad they're traveling more. I hope they travel more to Florida. It's good for our economy, and it's good for our Nation when people do that. But John, thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

I also am so glad the chairman of the Corporation for National and Community Service is with us, the former mayor of Indianapolis, Indiana, a man who understands what compassionate conservatism is all about, a guy who did a fabulous job of revitalizing Indianapolis through a faith-based initiative that was strong and powerful and locally derived, and now a man who is in charge of making sure that the initiatives I'm outlining get instituted, and that's Stephen Goldsmith. Thanks for coming, Steve.

And with him is the CEO, Les Lenkowski. In my speech, I talked about making sure AmeriCorps and Senior Corps expand. Les's job is to follow through. I'm one of these accountability guys. I understand, sometimes in the political process, all you hear are words. I like to back them up with action. I like it to be known that——

Audience member. You bet!

The President. You bet. [*Laughter*] I like to know that it's one thing to lay it out; it's another thing to follow up. I'm a followup guy. Les understands that. And so, when we say we're going to have an active effort to recruit, I will be asking Les and John Bridgeland, who is now working for me, head of the USA Freedom Corps, "What are the results? Have we been able to deliver what we said?" And I'm confident we will, particularly since the spirit in this country is so strong. I'm confident—when I stood up in front of the Nation and said, "I ask you to dedicate 2 years of your life, 4,000 hours for the rest of your life, to service for your country"—and I believe America will respond. I truly believe it.

One thing we've got to do is make sure that people understand how to respond. Now, don't get me wrong; I understand there are thousands of Americans who are now volunteering in America. And for that, I am incredibly grateful. I know there are hundreds and thousands of man-hours being given to make sure communities are better off, and we applaud those efforts. What I'm saying is, to those who are already volunteering, "Keep going. We need your help."

And some aren't sure where to go; you see, some aren't sure how to help. And so we set up the USA Freedom Corps. And I want people to understand that if they want to help, they need to call 1–877–USA–CORPS. If you want to be a part, just call that number, and we will help direct your heart to a program that needs your help. Or if you happen to be an Internet surfer, we've got a Web page, usafreedomcorps.gov—usafreedomcorps, spelled c-o-r-p-s, .gov. It will give you a chance to find out what we're talking about. It will give you a go-by as to how you can help.

And there are some fantastic programs right here in Volusia County that others ought to recognize, that work. One is Citizens on Patrol. We basically—we, the county and the State, have said there are numerous seniors who have got a lot to offer, people who might be retired but their brains haven't retired and their experience hasn't been retired, so let's figure out how to get them involved in the community. So they've got a program called Citizens on Patrol. More than 200 volunteers put in 51,000 hours in the year 2001 to help serve as eyes and ears of local law enforcement. If a child is missing, they help look. If something is odd, they help notice.

I don't know if you remember, but I talked about, digging into those Al Qaida caves in Afghanistan, we found some of their aspirations in terms of creating harm for America. For example, they targeted some of our cities or some of our infrastructure. Citizens on Patrol here in Volusia County patrol the water treatment plants and water treatment facilities in this county. I was up in Maine the other day, and I was informed that as a result of a collaborative effort with the Coast Guard and the FBI, lobstermen now patrol the coast of Maine, looking for something unusual. Part of having a homeland defense is to have people on alert. And I appreciate this program. So if people in this part of the world want to help be a part of the first defense on homeland security—and that is, help patrol neighborhoods or patrol areas or industrial complexes to make sure nothing unusual is happening—a great program is Citizens on Patrol, right here in Volusia County.

Part of the homeland security initiative that I outlined is to make sure that there is a proper strategy in place for responding to an emergency. That's why we're focusing resources on bioterrorism, airport security, a

better border—better border programs. We've got to understand who's coming in and who's coming out of the country in a better way, it seems like to me. But one of the things we also need to do is to have emergency response strategy. If something were to go wrong, there needs to be a collaborative strategy between city and county and all jurisdictions within that will be able to respond properly.

One of the interesting programs here through Senior Corps and the senior programs in Volusia County is the Community Emergency Response Volunteers, CERV. They have got lists of seniors who they call if there's an impending emergency. They help put kits together to make sure that if there's an emergency, people are well treated. They have been assigned schools to go to if there's an emergency during evacuation.

All this, by the way, is transferable to our war against terror, is to make sure the homeland of the United States is more secure. And so I want to thank the seniors in this county. And the innovative entrepreneurial spirit of convincing people of how to volunteer in a constructive way is so good here.

And America—Americans are asking how you can help. Here's another way to help: to serve your Nation by being a part of an emergency response team. There are retired doctors, retired nurses that can help hospitals; there are retired policemen and firemen that can help fire—there are people that want to help. Here's a good way to help.

And finally, one of the things that—one of the incredible parts of 9/11 is that the Nation understands how important compassion is. I mean, the way I view this is that we're fighting evil, and I don't see any shades of gray. And the best way to fight evil is with acts of kindness. The best way to fight evil is for people to love their neighbor.

People say, "Well, I want to be a part of the war on terror." Okay, go love a child. Find somebody who needs help. One thing we ought to do in the Nation is to find those children whose parents may be in prison and team them up with a mentor, so that that child understand there is at least somebody in our society that says, "I love you."

And there is an important role for seniors, people who understand the importance of love. And so, there's a Foster Grandparent Program here, as a part of Senior Corps. It's a program that says, if you care for children—and most foster grandparents obviously have had a little experience with raising children—please, we want your help. We want you to serve as a mentor. We want you to provide a part of a hopeful future for a child.

I'm fully aware of the importance of Senior Corps for the future of the country. That's why I'm here, to herald successful programs within the Senior Corps fabric. Our goal is to recruit 100,000 new Senior Corps volunteers—100,000. We've got a Web site. We've got a phone number you can call. Please pass the word. It is an initiative that will help really solidify the spirit of compassion, a responsibility era that's beginning to emerge in our country.

I leave here to go to Atlanta, Georgia, to talk about the need for us to recruit teachers in classrooms. Part of fighting terror is to make sure our children are educated. And we need more teachers, and particularly hard in neighborhoods where some teachers may not want to teach. And so I'm going to herald a great program later on today that's as successful as the Senior Corps program here in Volusia County. Obviously, you can tell that I've got great optimism for the country, a great hope for our future.

My most important job as the President is to protect America, is to make sure that we've got a homeland defense that's well coordinated and active. And even though the enemy thinks they're going to hit us again, you need to know your Federal Government is doing everything we can to stop them.

We are on full alert. Our FBI, for example, has got a new mission, and that is to prevent attack. Oh, they've got their other jobs to do, but their primary focus is, "What can I do, what can I do as an FBI agent, to gather as much intelligence as possible to prevent a possible attack from happening?"

Another way, we've got to make sure we share information with local authorities. When we get a piece of information, I can assure you we'll be on the phone notifying people about the appropriate response. But we're looking, and we're listening, and we're

active. And the enemy knows that they have awakened a mighty giant.

But the best way to make sure we secure our homeland, the best way we make sure that children can grow up in a peaceful world, a world that understands the power and promise of freedom, is to find the enemy where they hide and bring them to justice. And that's exactly what this Nation is going to do.

Oh, I know some of the people around the world are saying, "Well, you know, he can't possibly mean that, now that they've looked like they're successful in Afghanistan. Gosh, don't you think it's about time they just kind of go on home?" No. It's now time to stand for freedom and to make it clear to terrorists and/or nations that are willing to develop weapons of mass destruction that could be used against us that we will not tire and we will not falter.

This great Nation has been given a chance in history to make the world more free, and I promise you we'll seize that opportunity. We'll be wise and deliberate about how we pursue our grand objective, but we'll pursue it.

Time isn't on our side. As these nations develop these sophisticated weapons, they need to know—not how, but our intention is to hold them accountable. And the rest of the world needs to be with us, because these weapons can be pointed at them just as easily at us. And we cannot let terror and evil blackmail the United States or any other freedom-loving country in the world.

I'm proud of our country. I'm proud of the spirit of America. I am proud to be the President of the greatest Nation on the face of the Earth. I said in my speech that one way we'll overcome evil is through the gathering momentum of millions of acts of kindness and decency and compassion. And I'm proud to be in a room of part of that momentum.

May God bless you all, and may God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:42 a.m. at the Volusia County Fire Services Training Center. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. Jeb Bush of Florida.

Remarks to the Community in Atlanta, Georgia

January 31, 2002

Thank you all very much. Saxby, thanks so very much for your kind words in your introduction. This country is fortunate to have such a good man be the chairman of the Subcommittee on Terrorism and Homeland Defense. It's important that we have good leadership in roles that relate to making sure our land is secure, and the State of Georgia sent a good one up there in Saxby Chambliss.

I'm honored to be in the company of other members of the Georgia delegation. As you know, I'm a proud member of the Republican Party. I'm traveling today with proud members of the Democrat Party, but we're all proud Americans, first and foremost.

I'd like you all to welcome Cynthia McKinney and Congressman John Lewis from Atlanta, Georgia. Thank you all. I appreciate your being here. I got a little Georgia briefing on the way in from the airport from a man who understands this State pretty darn well, a marine—I was about to make a huge mistake and say former marine—[*laughter*]—and your former Governor, Senator Zell Miller.

I want to thank other locally elected officials for being here, and I particularly want to thank a member of my Cabinet. This man is a man who understands public education. He understands it well. You see, I picked him out of the trenches. I didn't find somebody, somebody who can talk theory to be the Department of Education—head of the Department of Education. I found somebody who has practiced. And when I asked him to join my team, he was the superintendent of the Houston Independent School District, a school district that was committed to make sure there was excellence for every child, and no child—I mean no child—would be left behind. Please welcome the Secretary of Education, Rod Paige.

We are on our way, after this chance for me to tell you about how I think things are going, to Booker T. Washington High School to talk about the need for folks to teach. I'm going to spend a little time at the end of this talk, talking about that. But Rod is here

to highlight our passion and focus on education.

I also am here to tell you that, even though we're at war and even though we're in recession, this Nation has never been stronger.

You know, I like to tell people that the enemy must have been watching too much daytime TV. [*Laughter*] They thought we were soft. They thought we would weaken. They thought we were so materialistic that we'd be unable to put something greater than ourselves as a priority. But my oh my, did they make a huge mistake.

This Nation is united. It is patient. It is determined to do the right thing, and that right thing is to rout out terror wherever it hides and wherever it exists, so the world can be free for our children and our grandchildren.

I knew that when I called our military into action, our military would perform brilliantly. They have not let us down. And for those of you who have got a relative in the military, thank you from the bottom of our heart, and please thank them on behalf of the Commander in Chief.

We sent them on a mission, and the mission was to hold those accountable who attacked us, but it wasn't just those who attacked. There's a new doctrine. It says that if you harbor a terrorist, if you feed a terrorist, if you hide a terrorist, you're just as guilty as the terrorist. And the Taliban found out that we say what we do in America. We held them accountable, and by holding that barbaric government accountable, this great Nation liberated a people. We liberated women and children from the clutches of a government that did not believe in respect for women and rights for children.

I can't tell you how proud I am of our commitment to values. And as I said in my speech, that commitment to values is going to be an integral part of our foreign policy as we move forward. These aren't American values; these are universal values, values that speak universal truths.

But we've only accomplished part of our mission in the first theater on the war against terror. We're still going to get Al Qaida. Now, these are—remember, this is a difficult stage of the war, because these are the fellows that like to commit somebody else's sons to suicide missions while they, themselves, burrow into caves. But there is no cave deep enough for the reach of the American military and American justice.

They can run, and they can hide, but they can't run and hide forever. This patient Nation will stay the course until we bring the killers to justice. We seek not revenge; we seek justice. But we seek something else. We understand this is a struggle for freedom, itself. We understand that we face an enemy that knows no value, does not share the same values we do. For the sake of the civilized world, for the sake of stability for the world, for the sake of a peaceful world, we must not only find them in Afghanistan; we must find them wherever they hide, in any country that harbors terrorism around the world.

And we will—and we will. In my speech to Congress, I said that not only would we find, rout out terror and terrorist training camps—and by the way, the evidence we found indicates that there's been thousands of people trained in these camps. So they're moving around. We can't rest; we can't weary. We've also sent another message, that if you're one of these nations that develops weapons of mass destruction, and you're likely to team up with a terrorist group, or you're now sponsoring terror, or you don't hold the values we hold dear true to your heart, then you too are on our watch list.

People say, "What does that mean?" It means they better get their house in order, is what it means. It means they better respect the rule of law. It means they better not try to terrorize America and our friends and allies, or the justice of this Nation will be served on them, as well.

My hope, of course, is that nations make the right choice. And I believe some nations are doing just that by being steadfast with our coalition and our friends and allies, that nations choose a peaceful course, that they reject terror. And as I say, many nations are realizing when we say, "You're either with us or against us," we mean it. There's no middle ground when it comes to freedom and terror.

And so, my hope is, is that those nations we put on notice and other nations around the world will make the right choice. But they should not make any mistake about it:

We will defend our national security. The security of the United States of America is my most important job. And I take it seriously, and I will follow through.

And that's why the budget I sent to Congress says this: To those who wear our uniform, you deserve the best training, the best equipment, and you deserve a pay raise. The number one priority of my budget is the defense of the United States of America, and the good news is, is that our Congress is unified. There is no difference between the Republicans and Democrats when it comes to freedom and security, and for that, I'm grateful. And I'm confident that my budget—the military aspect of my budget will not only get a fair hearing but will be passed by members of both political parties.

Secondly, we've got to protect our homeland. I wake up every morning, get into the Oval Office—by the way, it is still an awesome experience to walk in the Oval Office—[*laughter*]—every morning. What an honor it is to walk in there. And even Spot, the dog, is impressed. [*Laughter*] Barney's not invited in. The carpet's too new. [*Laughter*] Don't tell Barney. I hope he's not watching C–SPAN. [*Laughter*]

But I sit at that grand desk in the Oval Office and read a threat assessment, read about the intentions of the enemy. And it reminds me that this Nation's got to be alert. Now, what does that mean? Well, it means if you see something unusual, tell the local police. They're on alert. It means that we've got to make sure Federal law enforcement officials know that their most important priority is to prevent another attack.

I'm proud to report that Director Mueller and the FBI have changed the culture. We're still going to be after spies and white-collar crime, but their most important function is to make sure that we get as much intelligence as possible and act on it to prevent the enemy from hitting us again.

And so, my fellow citizens, I know the farther we get away from 9/11, we hope that the world becomes more secure. But you just need to know that I take nothing for granted. Time and distance from when the evil ones hit does not diminish my intensity for doing everything we can to protect our people. And that's why I asked Tom Ridge to put together a homeland defense strategy. That's why I'm asking Congress to pass a significant budget increase, to focus on bioterrorism, to provide money and support for local law enforcement and fire folks, to make sure there's emergency plans in place, to make sure that our INS knows exactly who is coming into our country and who is leaving our country, to make sure that homeland—to make sure our homeland is as secure as possible.

But I want to remind you all and remind those who wonder about our activities overseas, the best way to secure the homeland of our country is to find the terrorists where they hide, and get them.

No, the enemy made a mistake, and they don't understand our country. And they could not have predicted what would have happened in America. While we hate what happened on September the 11th, I welcome—I welcome—the changes that are taking place in our country. I stand in awe of the American people. I do. I'm the President of a land of people who are so compassionate and so decent and so kind that evil people can't possibly, possibly put that into their calculation. This is a land where neighbors are helping neighbors.

I view this as a unique moment not only to fight for freedom, a unique moment to fight for peace, but a unique moment to help change our culture from one that says, "If it feels good, do it," to a new culture which says, "Each of us are responsible for the decisions we make in life."

Part of a responsibility culture starts at home. And it says, if you are a mom or a dad, the most important job you will ever have is to love your children. That's the most important job, but a responsibility culture also says that we're responsible for the citizens—our neighbors. We're responsible for loving a neighbor like we'd like to be loved ourselves.

And by the way, there's corporate responsibility, part of the responsibility here, which says that let's make sure when you account for losses and profits, that you put it all on your books so everybody understands.

I have asked America to fight evil with acts of kindness. You see, I believe that the best way—people say, "Well, what can I do to help?" Well, there's ways you can help by

being alert. But I'm asking people to fight evil with good. As you can probably tell from my speeches, I don't see any shades of gray in the war against terror. It's either evil—[*applause*]. I also believe that we as a nation can overwhelm the evil ones by rising up and support a new culture of responsibility by volunteering.

And so I've asked the Nation, each of us, to volunteer 4,000 hours, minimum, over the rest of our lifetime, or 2 years in service to your country. And I know many in Atlanta do that, and I thank you for that. You come out of your churches or synagogues or mosques, and you've got a program based upon faith, and you're working hard to change people's lives. You're already doing it. Just keep doing it. It's good for America, and it's good in the fight against evil.

But some don't know where to help, and so we've started what's called the USA Freedom Corps. And it's a chance for people to participate in homeland security or participate in spreading American values and kindness and generosity around the world through the Peace Corps or to participate at home in inner-city neighborhoods. Join Teach For America, for example, which is a fantastic program that I'm going to go herald at Booker T. Washington High School. There's a way to join Senior Corps, and there's all kinds of ways to help our country. And if you're interested, call 877—[*laughter*]—USA–CORPS, or usafreedomcorps.gov.

My fellow Americans, if you want to join the fight against terrorists, join up. Volunteer to make your community a better place. Spread love and compassion throughout our country. The way I like to define it is, we will overcome evil through the gathering momentum of millions of acts of kindness and decency.

And after all, it's going to happen, because you know why? This is such a decent and compassionate country. We're a country based on fabulous values. We're a country open to everybody. We're a country based upon the principle that says, "Freedom is important. Freedom is essential. Freedom is nonnegotiable."

No question in my mind these are tough times for America, but there's no question in my mind: We'll prevail. Right is on our side. And we'll prevail because we're a fabulous nation, and we're a fabulous nation because we're a nation full of fabulous people.

It's my honor to be your President. God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:41 p.m. in the Marquis Ballroom at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis.

Remarks at Booker T. Washington High School in Atlanta

January 31, 2002

Thank you all. Please be seated. Nice to be here at the home of the mighty Bulldogs. Whew, I'm glad I'm not on the other team. I'm so honored to be here.

I was specially interested to learn this was Martin Luther King, Jr.'s, high school. And I want the students to understand something about his life. It goes to show that an individual can make a huge difference in the lives of our fellow citizens. In his case, he made history. In your case, it could be just loving somebody. The lesson of Martin Luther King is a powerful lesson and is part of my—what I want to talk about today.

But before I do so, I've got some introductions I want to make. First, I am honored that your Governor is with us, Governor Roy Barnes. I appreciate it—and the first lady. And like me, he married above himself. [*Laughter*] First lady of Georgia, it's good to see you. Thank you.

I appreciate members of the congressional delegation coming. Oh, I know generally a Democrat is not supposed to show up when a Republican shows up, and a Republican's not supposed to show up when a Democrat shows up. But there is a new attitude in America today. I'm a proud Republican. Cynthia McKinney and John Lewis and Zell Miller are proud Democrats. Saxby's a proud Republican. Cleland is a proud Democrat. But first and foremost, we're all proud Americans.

I appreciate so very much members of the House and the Senate—State House and the Senate—for coming over to say hello today. I'm honored that your mayor is here. Thanks for coming.

I'm so pleased that a member of my Cabinet came. I picked a good man when I picked the Secretary of Education. I didn't pick somebody who dwelt on theory. I picked on somebody who is experienced. You know, you have a chance to—got to choose all kinds of people when you pick your Cabinet. I wanted somebody who actually understood how public education worked because he had lived in public education. This man ran the toughest, biggest, orneriest school district in the State of Texas, the Houston Independent School District, and he did a great job there. And he's doing a great job as the Secretary of Education. I appreciate you.

I want to thank your superintendent of schools here in Atlanta, Dr. Beverly Hall. Thank you for coming, Beverly.

One lesson I have learned not only as Governor but as President, that a school really functions well if it's got a fine principal. And you've got a fine principal. They love you. I want to thank all the teachers who are here. I'm honored to be in your presence. I want to thank not only the Teach For America teachers who are here, I want to thank all the teachers who are here. Yours is a noble, important profession.

For those of you who have yet to graduate from high school, who are wondering what life might hold for you, wondering what your career might be, please give teaching a consideration. Please look at teaching. There is no better way to leave a mark, a positive mark on the life of America.

One of the things I like to do is herald kind of the quiet heroes of our society. In this case, I want to talk about a social entrepreneur, someone who had a dream and a vision and implemented it. And that's the founder and president of Teach For America, Wendy Kopp. Now, for those of you who don't—she brought some of her family members here. [*Laughter*]

It is—Wendy shows that, with strength of purpose and setting goals and striving for a better tomorrow, it is possible to make a huge difference. Out of an idea came the desire to convince folks to teach in schools that are having trouble to get teachers. And she had succeeded way beyond what people thought a single person can do. There are 8,000 Teach For America teachers and alumni around the country. I am proud to stand up and talk about the best of America in Wendy Kopp. Wendy, thank you for what you do.

I am proud of a country that is unified and strong. You know, I like to put it this way: The enemy must have been watching too much daytime TV. They thought we were weak. They thought we would roll over by one single attack. My, my, were they mistaken. The enemy thought that we were too materialistic, too self-absorbed, that we would tire and weary. No, this United States is united. We are strong. We are determined. We are patient. We are resolved to rout out terror wherever it exists to save the world for freedom.

And it's important to do so. History has called us into action. And we cannot weary. Oh, I know some are—some, the farther we get away from September the 11th, are going to say, "Well, gosh, do we really need to go through this?" Listen, I want you all to know, every morning I walk into a fabulous office, the Oval Office, and I sit down in my desk, and I read a report, a threat assessment about what the enemy wants to do. There are still designs on America. The evil ones can't stand a nation that is free. Evil people can't stand free people. And so, they still want to hit us. My most important job is to make sure that this Nation is secure and safe.

We're doing everything we can at home to find out, to track down anybody who would dare hurt innocent United States citizens. And we're making pretty good progress. The Federal Bureau of Investigation's major task now, its most important job, is to protect the homeland. We've got thousands of agents tracking down any hint, any lead, making sure that America is safe.

I've got a Homeland Security Office, all designed to work to make sure that a bioterrorist attack can be responded to, to make sure our heroic police and firefighters have the tools necessary to respond, to be active and first-responders, to make sure we understand who's coming into our country and who's leaving our country.

We're doing everything we can at home. But I want to tell you all, as plainly as I can, the best homeland defense, the best way to make sure America is secure and free, is to find the enemy where it hides and bring

them to justice. And we're making good progress, and I appreciate the resolve and patience of our country. I appreciate the unity that stands behind the men and women who wear our uniform.

I sent such brave, brave men and women into a tough conflict. And I want to tell you, they haven't let us down. I see some students with your uniforms on. If you choose to go into the military, I want to thank you and let you know that your Government will stand squarely behind you. Whatever it takes to win the war on terror, we will pay it.

I said to the people who killed thousands of Americans that we're coming after you, that we won't let your evil acts stand. I also said that if you hide one of those people, if you feed one of those people, you're just as guilty as those who attacked America. And the Taliban has learned the lesson of that doctrine. They no longer are in power, thank God, for women and children in Afghanistan. Our Nation has liberated—we not only served to bring justice—not revenge but justice—we have liberated women and children who lived under the most oppressive regime—one of the most repressive regimes in this history of mankind. I am proud of this great country.

When you graduate this year if you're a senior, you're the first—yes, sir—you're the first—[*laughter*]—you're the first senior class that has graduated after America has been attacked on the homeland. Think about that. That is historic, and it's not over unless we pursue our mission.

And so, therefore, the mission is not just those who flew into the building. These people, the Al Qaida people, trained thousands of people in their camps before we started moving on them. I say thousands of ticking timebombs ready to go off. And therefore, we must be relentless in our pursuit, not just in Afghanistan, but wherever they hide.

That's why it's so important to have a vast coalition of nations, friendly nations together. And it's why it's important for our country to continue to lead, to make sure that part of the doctrine that says, "Either you're with us or you're against us," is enforced. It is so important that we fight for freedom, so young can grow up in a free society.

We're also in a pretty dangerous phase of the first theater in the war against terror. Because, remember, we're chasing down people who, on the one hand, send youngsters to their suicide deaths, and on the other, try to burrow in the ground in caves as deep as they can come. But they're about to learn this lesson from our country: They can run, and they can hide, but they can't run and hide long enough, because this patient people are going to bring them to justice, no matter how long it takes.

I also talked yesterday about countries that are developing weapons of mass destruction that could be used to hurt ourselves or our allies or our friends. And we're just not going to sit back and let them do it. They now have been warned. They can change their behavior, and I hope they do.

Some nations are already changing their behavior as a result of the United States leading a strong coalition. Now they know, and now they can change. But one thing they've got to know is for certain: We will not let them use their weapons of mass destruction to threaten the security of the United States of America. They are on notice, and I expect them to make the right decisions about being a peaceful nation, a nation that doesn't want to harm our allies and friends, a nations that respects common values, and a nation that adheres to freedom. We have that obligation to future generations of Americans, and it's an obligation I assure you that I will keep.

Out of this evil came some incredible good. No one wished what happened on September the 11th happened. But out of evil came great good in the country, and I want to share some of that with you. The country has taken an assessment of what's important in life. We've kind of stepped back and said—one thing we've said in Washington is, politics is important, but it's not nearly as important as winning a war. Politics is important—listen, we're all politicians; anybody who's holding office saying they're not a politician isn't telling the truth—but at least we can put something greater than self, at least we can figure out how to do something more important than political party. And we did so, by the way, with an education bill.

I know, you're not supposed to stand up if you're a Republican and say something

nice about Ted Kennedy. But I did, for a right reason, because we worked together, Republicans and Democrats, to fashion a really good piece of legislation that empowers the Governors and local people to make the right decisions, but also says, we're not going to stand for a system that simply shuffles children through. We know who gets harmed in a system that gives up on kids early. And we're not going to stand for it in America because every child can learn, and no child should be left behind in this country.

There are ways to fight terror other than wearing a uniform. A teacher fights terror every day by walking into a classroom and teaching children how to read and write and add and subtract. A church group can do it by helping people in need. A synagogue can organize ways to help elderly, for example. There's all kinds of ways to fight evil.

People ask me, "What can I do to help? What can I do to help?" Well, if you're dedicating your time to volunteer work, you're already helping. And I ask America, young and old alike, to dedicate at least 2 years of your life, 4,000 hours over your lifetime, to service to your fellow man, to service to your Nation, by serving somebody else.

And it's happening. Listen, I know Atlanta, Georgia, and I know the country. There are thousands of people dedicating thousands of hours. And for that, I am grateful. Just keep doing it. But some are asking, "What can I do to help?" As a matter of fact, some in our society have never been challenged to help. After all, we've been living through an era that said, "If it feels good, just go ahead and do it." My dream is to change that culture to one in which each of us are responsible for the decisions we make in life. If you have a child, you're responsible for loving the child. If you're in a community, you have a responsibility of loving your fellow man, just like you'd like to be loved yourself.

No, we can change, use the evil to help usher in a period of personal responsibility. And part of an era of personal responsibility is to help somebody, is to help somebody in need. And so I've set up a program called the USA Freedom Corps. If you're looking for someplace to help, here's a chance. If you want to participate in the good of your country, here's your opportunity to do so, and all you've got to do is pick up the phone and dial 1–877–USA–CORPS. [*Laughter*] That's all you've got to do, and they will help you.

And we've got some ideas for you. If you're a senior citizen, join Senior Corps and help make your community more alert to the potential of attack or help develop an emergency response team. If you're a retired doc, participate with your local health systems to prepare your community and your neighborhood for what we hope doesn't happen.

If you want to participate in USA Freedom Corps, it's usafreedomcorps.gov, if you're one of these computer-literate type people. [*Laughter*] If you want to help, and you feel like you want to take your compassion overseas, we're going to expand the Peace Corps mission. And we're going to send people into the Islamic world for the first time, or one of the first times, to make sure we spread America's compassion and hope.

And you need to help at home, as well. One way you can help is to become a mentor. One way you can help is to find a child who needs somebody older in their life who can put their arm around them and say, "I love you. There's hope for you. What can I do to help you succeed in America?"

And another way you can help—and I hope young Americans all across the country think about joining Teach For America——it is a part of AmeriCorps. And our goal is to expand AmeriCorps by 200,000 volunteers this year. And I thank my friend Steve Goldsmith for helping shepherd this program forward. He's a former mayor of Indianapolis. He understands how to rally community-based programs for the greater good.

And so, my fellow Americans, if you care about America, put 4,000 hours of service toward America. It will help defeat what the enemy wants.

You know, I tend to speak, I hope, plainly enough for people to understand. I view this as good versus evil. There is no middle ground as far as I'm concerned. And therefore, in order to fight evil, what this Nation must do is to gather the collective hearts, the good decency of our American people and show the world we're not going to be intimidated. We will not be intimidated overseas. We will not change at home.

What we will do is take the momentum of millions of acts of decency and convert that to the greater good. We've got a huge challenge against us—for us, a huge challenge, a huge hill to climb in America, winning the war on terror and changing the culture for the better. But guess what we're fixing to do? We're fixing to show the world the strength of America. We're fixing to overcome our obstacles. We're going to lead the world toward a more compassionate, more decent, more free tomorrow.

It is such an honor to be the President of such a great nation. And we're a great nation because we're a great people. May God bless you all, and may God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:56 p.m. in the gymnasium. In his remarks, he referred to Governor Roy E. Barnes of Georgia and his wife, Marie; Mayor Shirley Franklin of Atlanta; Shirley Kilgore, principal, Booker T. Washington High School; and Stephen Goldsmith, chair, board of directors, Corporation for National and Community Service.

Remarks Following Discussions With Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder of Germany

January 31, 2002

President Bush. Well, we've had a substantial discussion with my friend the Chancellor of Germany, Gerhard Schroeder. I appreciate him coming over to say hello again. We spent a great deal of time talking about our mutual desire to rid the world of terror. And I'm so pleased with Germany's cooperation. They've provided troops in Afghanistan, troops that have performed really well, according to our military, and I want to congratulate you for that.

I also thanked the Chancellor for hosting the Bonn convention, which made a substantial stride toward an Afghanistan that will be able to survive after we have ridded it of the Taliban. I appreciate so very much the Chancellor's willingness to help Afghanistan help herself, in terms of training a police force. I told him we're in the process of setting up a plan to help Afghanistan develop her own military. So we're linked up well in our mutual desires to leave the world more peaceful.

So, Mr. Chancellor, I'm so honored you're here. I want to welcome you.

Chancellor Schroeder. Well, ladies and gentlemen, I can only absolutely confirm what His Excellency, the President, has just said regarding our discussions, particularly focusing, obviously, on the fight against terrorism but also about the fight that has happened in Afghanistan and that the support that has been rendered by us, too.

We, as you all know, are very committed to the participation in the peace corps in Afghanistan, under the umbrella of the United Nations. Obviously, and as the President has just pointed out, we are very interested in committing ourselves to training police forces, law enforcement forces within Afghanistan because we find it crucially important that such intra-Afghanistan proper homegrown police forces can be built up in the process. And in the more long term, obviously, a military structure will be needed here, too.

I, obviously, wouldn't like to forget the fact that I have congratulated the President on the economic performance that the country has obviously been able to show. We do see some positive signs here; things are being fueled again, which obviously is not just positive and good for the U.S.—American economy but also for the global economy, too.

I'm very pleased, indeed, that obviously there are now some hopeful signs here because, obviously, as soon as the economy runs smoothly again here that is going to be good for the global economy and, therefore, good for Europe and certainly for Germany, too.

President Bush. Thank you, Gerhard.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:10 p.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. Chancellor Schroeder spoke in German, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter.

Remarks Prior to Discussions With King Abdullah II of Jordan and an Exchange With Reporters

February 1, 2002

President Bush. I want to welcome our close friend His Majesty, from the country

of Jordan, back to the Oval Office. We have had a chance to visit several times during the course of my tenure as the President, and every visit has been very constructive and very positive.

I appreciate so very much his support on our mutual concerns about making the world more peaceful, our desire to rout out terror. And Your Majesty, thank you for your strong support.

I also look forward to having a good discussion with His Majesty about how we can work together to improve both our economies. King Abdullah is serious about his desire to improve the lot of his people and wants to make sure that whatever we do, we do together with one thing in mind, and that is to extend our mutual prosperity so people can make a living and have a better life. I appreciate so much his compassion for the people of Jordan. Every time I've talked to him, he's expressed his concern to make sure that the moms and dads of Jordan have got a capacity to provide for their children.

I look forward to also discussing his desire to make sure that we share our strategies about how to make sure both our people are educated in a way that will provide a hopeful future.

So, Your Majesty, welcome back to the Oval Office, and I'm glad to have you here, sir.

King Abdullah. Thank you very much, Mr. President. As always, it's a tremendous honor and pleasure to be back to see you.

As you've said, our meetings have been growing in strength and cooperation every time that we have met. It is really such an important relationship between our two countries. Not only have we been able to work with you on improving the economic situation in Jordan, as you've just mentioned, but equally as important, you've been so kind to listen to our views on the area and the region, and we're very grateful for your effort. And I know, Mr. President, where your heart is on many of the regional issues to try and bring peace and stability to the area. And we're very grateful for your vision in that and for your courage and determination to really bring a better world in our part of the Middle East.

President Bush. Thank you. We'll answer a couple of questions.

Situation in the Middle East

Q. Mr. President, good morning. Prime Minister Sharon spoke yesterday about his sorrow not to eliminate President Arafat in Lebanon, as if it was a mistake he would like to correct now. Do you have any comment on Mr. Sharon's sorrow?

President Bush. Yes. I think the best way to peace is for us all to keep the focus on what derails peace, and what derails peace is terror. And the more quickly we eliminate terror, the more likely it is we'll have a peaceful resolution in the region. And that's all I want to comment on the situation.

Fournier [Ron Fournier, Associated Press].

Evil Axis/Daniel Pearl

Q. Mr. President, first, real quickly, to Your Majesty. Do you think there is——

The President. You want two questions——

Q. Only one each.

The President. Okay, in that case——

Q. Real quickly, sir, Your Majesty, do you think there is an evil axis in the world, and is Iraq part of it? And Mr. President, what are you doing or what can you do about the Wall Street Journal reporter who is hostage in Pakistan?

King Abdullah. Well, sir, after the September 11th tragedy, I think it's very obvious that there are those that are on the side of good, those that are on the side of bad, and there's some countries in the middle that haven't made up their minds. I think that the policy of the United States and the rest of us have been to be very clear to everybody on which side you want to choose, and that the President has been very articulate from the beginning of the 11th of September that there is a new world, there's a new expectations of how countries are supposed to react, and those countries better make up their minds pretty quickly. And I endorse tremendously that view and that position.

President Bush. I talked to the FBI Director this morning, Ron, about the American who is in Pakistan being evidently held

against his will. We are working with the Pakistani Government to chase down any leads possible. For example, we're trying to follow the trail of the e-mails that have been sent, with the sole purpose of saving this man, of finding him and rescuing him.

We've been in touch with the Wall Street Journal, and obviously we're deeply concerned, as is the Pakistani Government. And we will continue to do everything we can to rescue him.

Q. You said you have talked to the Journal or your people have?

President Bush. The FBI Director did.

Iran and North Korea

Q. Mr. President, have you abandoned efforts of pursuing a peaceful dialog with Iran and North Korea?

President Bush. No, of course not. My hope is—I said in my speech, I hope nations hear our call and make right decisions. A wrong decision will be to continue to export weapons of mass destruction. And I certainly hope that North Korea, for example, listens to what we suggested, and that is, they pull back some conventional weaponry to make a clear declaration of their peaceful intentions on the Peninsula and that they not export weapons. We would be more than happy to enter a dialog with them if that would be the case.

All the three countries I mentioned now are on—are now on notice that we intend to take their development of weapons of mass destruction very seriously. It's not just "we"; I'm talking about other nations that respect the rule of law and freedom. And I look forward to having this discussion with our friend King Abdullah. He has obviously made a very clear statement about his understanding of what it takes to bring peace and order to the world.

But having said that, all options are on the table as to how to make America and our allies more secure.

Situation in the Middle East

Q. Mr. President, what are the future plans that—steps that the United States is planning to take to restore calm and enhance peace in the Middle East?

President Bush. Well, the first thing is, Mr. Arafat has to make a—has to show the world that he is willing to join our fight against terror. I felt like we were making pretty good progress, up until the time when we discovered, the world discovered that there had been a significant shipment of arms ordered from Iran for only—it seemed like to us, only one purpose, and that is to prevent—is for terrorist purposes. And we can't let that stand. And frankly, that's in total contrast to what he assured us, not only through his decisions at Oslo but verbally, that he would help us fight against terror. Mr. Arafat must lead.

Q. Mr. President, what kind of help do you expect from Mr. Arafat if he's actually under house arrest? And second, what do you think of Mr. Sharon's policy of destroying the infrastructure of the Palestinian Authority and possibly the removal of Mr. Arafat from office? Do you really think of the post-Arafat era?

President Bush. I think what we need to do is to fight terror on all fronts in the Middle East, so that at some point we can get into the Tenet and then Mitchell accords. There is a plan for peace, but it starts with a full-focused effort to fight terror. And Mr. Arafat must do a better job. We believe he can do a better job, and he must do a better job of doing so.

Little Stretch [David Gregory, NBC News].

Daniel Pearl

Q. Thank you, Mr. President. Just to follow up on the situation with the Wall Street Journal reporter. Do the Pakistanis—are they familiar with the group holding him?

President Bush. No, according to the press, they're not; according to my information, they're not necessarily familiar with the group. On the other hand, we have some leads, for example, the e-mail—e-mails could provide a lead—and we're chasing them down. We're very concerned about the Wall Street Journal reporter. We are in touch with the Pakistani Government. We're in touch with the Wall Street Journal, and we've got both the—you know, our agencies in the area actively involved in trying to rescue him.

Federal Reserve/Stimulus Package

Q. Can I just follow on another point? Given the Fed's decision not to act——

The President. Given the——

Q. I'm sorry, the Fed's decision not to act on interest rates here a couple of days ago——

President Bush. Oh, the Fed—a new subject, okay, go. [*Laughter*] I'm kind of "the Feds," and we're acting—in terms of Pakistan. I got you. [*Laughter*]

Q. I'm trying a Fournier.

President Bush. But it's not quite as subtle as Fournier. See, Fournier is good about it because he actually addresses the two questions to two people. You're now going with the—it's a sole two-question, and it's a very—it's brazen, but go ahead. [*Laughter*]

Q. It is a stretch——

President Bush. I'm very impressed. It is a stretch—Little Stretch. [*Laughter*]

Q. If I could remember what I was going to ask—[*laughter*]—given what the Fed said and the growth numbers for the fourth quarter, are you as convinced that a stimulus package is still needed?

President Bush. One thing I'm—I believe we're still not out of our economic problems. We've still got problems. The economy is still soft. Too many people aren't working. There's not enough job creation. And I believe, like I said in the State of the Union, we need a stimulus package. Until Americans can find steady work, I am going to be relentless in my desire to enhance economic growth, and that means jobs. And we've got to work with Congress to figure out how to enhance economic vitality. There are some positive numbers, but not enough positive numbers to satisfy me.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:05 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel; Chairman Yasser Arafat of the Palestinian Authority; and Wall Street Journal journalist Daniel Pearl, who was kidnapped January 23 in Karachi, Pakistan. The President also referred to the Report of the Sharm al-Sheikh Fact-Finding Committee, and the June 13, 2001, Israeli-Palestinian ceasefire and security plan negotiated by CIA Director George J. Tenet.

Remarks Announcing the Appointment of James Towey as Director of the Office of the Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

February 1, 2002

The President. Good morning. Thank you all. Please be seated. Well, welcome to the Roosevelt Room in the White House. We're honored you all came. Thanks for being here.

I know all of you are here today to be a part of a great cause, and that is how best to serve our neighbors in need and to serve our community and our country. Really, it's to help change America, one heart, one soul, one conscience at a time.

Our goal is to rally all Americans to our cause. I mean all Americans. And I'm proud to have an outstanding man in Jim Towey to join me on this cause. First, I want to welcome the Towey family, all of them. [*Laughter*] Mary, Jamie, Joe, Max, and John, welcome, guys. And I'm glad Mom is with us. Florence, welcome, sure glad to have you here.

And I want to welcome Your Eminence, Cardinal Bevilacqua; sure good to see you, sir. I've had many a good heart-to-heart visit with His Eminence, and I've always come away a better person after having visited with him. Thank you for being here. And I want to thank everybody else for being here, as well.

A year ago this week, I announced one of the most important commitments of my administration, the Faith-Based and Community Initiative. The purpose was to apply the compassion of America to help solve the problems of our country. The purpose of this initiative recognizes the power of faith in helping heal some of our Nation's wounds. The purpose of this initiative is to rally the armies of compassion which are spread throughout the United States of America. The purpose of the initiative is to recognize our greatest strength, the hearts and souls of the American people, and apply that strength to help solve problems which afflict many of our citizens.

Since the attacks of September the 11th, it has become obvious to everyone how essential the community and faith-based groups are to the well-being of our Nation.

They have saved lives. They provide hope. They have helped heal the Nation's wounds.

We have a tremendous opportunity now to take the spirit and apply it to problems like poverty and addiction, abandonment and abuse, illiteracy and homelessness. These are incredibly tough problems. But I believe with the help of faith, we can solve the problems. I have faith that faith will work in solving the problems.

For the past year, the Office of the Faith-Based and Community Initiatives has done a terrific job. And I'm proud of the folks that work in the office.

And today I'm honored to name Jim Towey as its new head and new Director. He has served a Republican Senator and a Democratic Governor. He understands there are things more important than political parties. And one of those things more important than political parties is to help heal the Nation's soul. He's run a statewide Department of Health; in other words, he's an administrator. He also worked with Mother Teresa for more than a year—for more than a decade.

He brings to the job managerial skills and a servant's heart. He will be a great Director, and I look forward to working with him to advance a bold initiative.

In the next year, Jim will work to eliminate barriers that discriminate against community and faith-based organizations. Government cannot stand in the way of the good works of the people in our neighborhoods. Government must expedite and stand on the side of faith-based programs. We should not discriminate at the Federal level against people who are trying to help us solve the Nation's problems.

He'll work closely with Members of Congress from both parties to pass legislation that will put Government squarely on the side of our faith- and community-based groups. Jim will have the full support of a new Advisory Council on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, in which he will participate along with five Cabinet secretaries and Steve Goldsmith, the Chairman for the Corporation of National and Community Service.

The Council will be chaired by USA Freedom Corps Director John Bridgeland. I was proud to announce "Bridge" 2 days ago when he made his national debut, and I must say he handled the pressure quite well. [*Laughter*] But he's a good fellow who, along with Jim, is going to make an enormous difference about fulfilling a vision that I truly believe is going to help America help herself, is truly, going to believe, lift the spirit of this country. After all, that's my job. My job is to unify our country around common, big goals, and there is nothing more important than to help the hopeless see hope, to help the addicted see a better life, to help the collective will of our country to have a better tomorrow, realize its potential.

I'm so proud that Jim has decided to join our team. I'm grateful for your sacrifice to your country. I love your heart. America will be better off by your service. Welcome.

[*At this point, Mr. Towey made brief remarks.*]

The President. Good job, Jim. Thank you. Thank you all for coming.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:18 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Mr. Towey's wife, Mary, and their sons, Jamie, Joe, Max, and John, and Mr. Towey's mother, Florence; and His Eminence Anthony Cardinal Bevilacqua, Archbishop, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of Mr. Towey.

Remarks at the Congress of Tomorrow Luncheon in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia

February 1, 2002

President Bush. Thank you all. Please be seated. Thank you. It is rare that a fella can give two 50-minute addresses in the same week. [*Laughter*] I knew you'd be thrilled. [*Laughter*]

J.C., thanks for those kind words, and thanks for your leadership. One of us didn't get the dress code right. [*Laughter*]

Audience member. You didn't get the memo.

President Bush. Yes, I didn't get the memo. [*Laughter*]

At any rate, I'm delighted to be here; I am. First, I want to say something about the

leaders of the two bodies represented here. Your Speaker and the majority leader—I call him majority leader—are two really good men to work with. I have loved my experience working with Denny and Trent last year. I really enjoy the candid discussions. But most importantly, what I really appreciate is the desire to work together to do what's right for the country. We're lucky to have two such strong and good men leading the country. And so it's an honor to be with the Speaker and Senator Trent Lott. And I look forward to a fabulous year working with the two men in 2002.

I think this is going to be a great year; I do. I've never been more optimistic about anything in my life. In the Oval Office there's a painting by a friend of mine named Tom Lea. And when you come in the Oval Office, you'll notice it's the western-looking painting right by the door where Logan used to sit. By the way, this is Logan's last day working for me, which is—I didn't fire him; he voluntarily left. But anyway, if you were to work where Logan used to be, there's a painting that shows a great expanse of west Texas. It is the—the guy who painted the painting was the person who wrote the quote I used at the end of the convention, which I'm sure most of you have memorized by now. [*Laughter*] It says, "Sarah and I live on the east side of the mountain. It is the sunrise side, not the sunset side. It is the side to see the day that is coming, not to see the day that is gone."

It's so important for a President to see a day that is coming, that is positive. And I do. In clear and vivid ways, I see a day that is much better for not only America and Americans but the world. We have an historic opportunity to fight a war that will not only liberate people from the clutches of barbaric behavior but a war that could leave the world more peaceful in the years to come.

None of us asked for this war. None of us wished that what happened on September the 11th happened, and we continue to pray for the victims. But now that it's happened, this Nation is ready to seize the moment. And I'm so proud that the people in this room and on this podium understand the historic opportunity we have, and I want to thank you for joining this most noble and just cause.

We fight for freedom, and we stand for freedom, and we won't relent until we defend freedom at its core. And that's why the budget I sent up there has got a significant increase in defense spending, because we owe it to the defenders of freedom to give them the best equipment, the best housing, the best training, and another pay raise.

Now in my speech, I tried to educate the American people about what we're up against. I talked about the fact that thousands of people had gone through Al Qaida killer camps, and they're still roaming around. And so long as they're roaming around with the intention of hurting us, this Nation will hunt them down.

I've been traveling the country, as you know, and I'm so pleased with the fact that the American people are incredibly patient and resolved and share our determination to achieve our noble objective. They know that we have succeeded in one phase of our war in Afghanistan; we liberated women and children by demolishing the Taliban and its repressive government.

They also know that the stage we're now in, which is hunting down the cave dwellers, is going to take a while. They understand that, and I am grateful for the people's understanding. They understand that this is a dangerous phase of the war. But they have also been assured by me and by you all that we're not going to weary. We're not going to rush our military. We're going to be steady and relentless until we achieve the objective of getting the Al Qaida killers and bringing them to justice.

But they also understand that we are not preoccupied by one or two people, that while bin Laden thinks he can hide in a cave or Mullah Omar thinks he can run, it's just a matter of time. I don't know how much time, and I don't worry about the time about when he is brought—or they are brought to justice. That's just not one of my concerns. It's going to happen. And you know, we've got them running, and it's just—we'll get them.

But that's not our—we're preoccupied. And the American people understand that, because they understand our goal is broader than just two individuals. It is terror wherever terror exists, and it's upholding that doctrine, forcefully upholding the doctrine that

says if you harbor a terrorist, if you feed a terrorist, if you hide a terrorist, you too are as guilty as a terrorist.

But the moment is broader than just destroying terrorist training camps or finding terrorist trainers and bringing them to justice. The moment that we must seize says that in order for the world to be peaceful for our children and grandchildren, we've got to prevent nations which develop weapons of mass destruction from mating up with terrorist groups that will threaten the United States and our allies.

Now we've got nations on notice as a result of the speech last Tuesday night. Of course, I hope they change behavior on their own. I hope they hear the message of not only the United States but a vast coalition of freedom-loving countries as we clearly say, get your house in order; don't develop weapons of mass destruction. And then people say, "What are the consequences?" They'll find out in due course if they can't get their house in order. The mighty United States will do whatever it takes to defend our security. Make no mistake about it, if you threaten us with weapons of mass destruction, if you threaten our allies and friends with weapons of mass destruction, we will do whatever it takes to protect our people.

And that's what we're doing at home. And I want to thank you all for working with us. There's been some great ideas that have come out of the Congress about how best to protect the homeland, and we've incorporated a lot of them in the initial strategy that we're outlining, not only in our budget but over the course of the last couple of weeks, and we'll continue to do so. And Tom Ridge and our team is open for more suggestions about how to protect the people.

And so our bioterrorism initiative is substantial and real. And I want to thank you for working on it. Our first-responder initiative, where we're working with local governments, through Governors, is going to be real and meaningful. Our airport security measures are strong. I mean, we're doing everything we can, and the American people need to know that.

And so when you go back to your districts, I thank you very much for sharing our mutual concern and our knowledge that the enemy still wants to hit us, but our Government is responding forcefully. You need to know, and I know you know this, that the FBI, under Bob Mueller, has changed its culture. It's still after spies and white-collar criminals, and that's important. But the primary focus of 4,000-plus agents, is to disrupt the enemy, is to find out any information possible and run it down. We take every lead seriously. We take every hint of evidence seriously. We understand the intentions of the enemy, and your constituents must know that this Government is doing everything in our power to make America safe.

But the best way to secure the homeland for the long run is to get them, get them where they hide, get them where they train, and bring them to justice. And you just need to know something about your President; I am not going to tarry like I—wary—weary, on this subject, like I said in my first speech in September after the war. I understand the call. My determination today is as strong as it was when I addressed you all in October, and my determination 3 years from now will be just as strong then as it is today. I understand the call. I understand the mission. And this great country will defend freedom to it's core.

I said in my State of the Union that I stand in awe of the American people, and you know what I'm talking about. You've seen it in your communities when you go back home. You've seen it in your coffee shops. You've seen it in your different clubs. You've seen it when you've seen your neighbors. I mean, this country is a country that is not only strong and determined, but it's a compassionate country, as well.

People often ask me, "What can I do to participate in the war against terror?" And as you know, in this particular issue, I see things pretty clearly, in just plain terms. Since this is a war of good versus evil, those of—who want to participate in the war against terror can do acts of kindness to overwhelm the evil done to the country. People can participate in the war against terror all kinds of ways. You can help serve as eyes and ears; you can alert, be alert. But you can love a neighbor. An American, in fighting the war against terror, can walk across the street to a neighbor who is shut in and say, "I care

for you." And it's those millions of acts of kindness on a daily basis that define our country and stand defiantly in the face of evil.

And so one of the things I've tried to do is to capture the magnificent spirit of the country. And we've set up what's called the USA Freedom Corps. And somebody who is interested in joining can dial 1–877–USA–CORPS, or if you happen to be computer-literate, usafreedomcorps.gov. And it's a chance for citizens to heed my call, which says we'd like you to serve your country for 2 additional years, or 4,000 hours over your lifetime.

Now, I understand many in this room and many of your constituents are already—have heard the call. And keep doing—my call is, keep doing it. But some don't know where to start, and here is a good place for people to start. And if they call the USA Freedom Corps number, they will find ways to—if you're a senior citizen, participate in Senior Corps; or if you want to teach, Teach For America; or if you want to go to the Peace Corps, we're expanding the Peace Corps to take our values and compassion into the Islamic world, for example. There's all kinds of opportunities to serve. And we're calling on the American people to do so. And it's really to help change our culture. That's how I view it.

A lot of us grew up in a culture which has said, "If it feels good, just go ahead and do it; if you've got a problem, blame somebody else." See, I believe out of this evil can come a new cultural—a new culture, a new assessment of what America is all about. Our hope is that the country's culture changes to one of responsibility, that each of us are responsible for the decisions we make in life.

If you are a mom and dad, you are responsible for loving your child with all your heart and all your soul. If you're a compassionate neighbor, you're responsible for helping a neighbor in need. If you're corporate America, you're responsible for making sure you reveal all your assets and liabilities to your shareholders and your employees. So part of the ushering in the responsibility era, not only from the individual basis but on the corporate basis, I have proposed some pension reforms I would like to outline briefly for you today and ask you to take them up as quickly as possible.

We are announcing some proposals to protect pensions. My plan will strengthen the workers' ability to manage their own retirement funds by giving them more freedom to diversify, better access to professional investment advice, and quarterly information about their investments.

Employers should be encouraged to make generous contribution to workers' 401(k) plans. It's a positive development when employers give stock to people who work for them. About 42 million workers own 401(k) accounts with a total of $2 trillion in assets, and that's a critical part of retirement security for workers all across America.

But workers should also have the freedom to choose how to invest their retirement savings. And so the proposal I'll submit to Congress and work with Members here in this room will allow workers to sell company contributed stock and diversify into other investment options after 3 years of participation in their company's plan.

To ensure that blackout periods are fair, the plan will ensure that company executives be bound by the same blackout restrictions they impose on their workers. If it's okay for the sailor, it ought to be okay for the captain. My plan also requires that workers be given a 30-day notice before any blackout period begins, so workers can plan to make changes in their investments. It's a matter of fairness. It's a matter of openness. It's a matter of respect for the process. And I look forward to working with you to get something done.

I also look forward to working with you to continue the progress we've made on a lot of issues. I think America appreciates it when people come to this body or your respective bodies and work hard for what's good for the country. We've made good progress doing that.

I am so proud of working with you. I'm proud to be able to call you a colleague here in Washington, DC. It's been a remarkable experience for me. It's a joy to exchange ideas. It's been sometimes a joy to watch the legislative process. [*Laughter*] Generally, it's an amazing experience to watch. [*Laughter*] But I'm looking forward to working with you to make sure that the legislation that does

come out is positive and hopeful for the American people.

Thanks for your friendship. God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:38 p.m. in the Colonial Hall at the Greenbrier. In his remarks, he referred to Representative J.C. Watts, Jr., of Oklahoma; outgoing Presidential Aide Logan Walters; Usama bin Laden, leader of the Al Qaida terrorist organization; and Mullah Omar, former head of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan.

Memorandum on the Report to the Congress Regarding Conditions in Burma and U.S. Policy Toward Burma

February 1, 2002.

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: Report to the Congress Regarding Conditions in Burma and U.S. Policy Toward Burma

Pursuant to the requirements set forth under the heading "Policy Toward Burma" in section 570(d) of the Fiscal Year 1997 Foreign Operations Appropriations Act, as contained in the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act (Public Law 104–208), a report is required every 6 months following enactment concerning:

1) progress toward democratization in Burma;
2) progress on improving the quality of life of the Burmese people, including progress on market reforms, living standards, labor standards, use of forced labor in the tourism industry, and environmental quality; and
3) progress made in developing a comprehensive, multilateral strategy to bring democracy to and improve human rights practices and the quality of life in Burma, including the development of a dialogue between the State Peace and Development Council and democratic opposition groups in Burma.

You are hereby authorized and directed to transmit the attached report fulfilling these requirements to the appropriate committees of the Congress and to arrange for publication of this memorandum in the *Federal Register.*

George W. Bush

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

January 26

During the day, at Camp David, MD, the President met with Republican congressional leaders to discuss the upcoming congressional agenda. Later, he returned to Washington, DC. In the evening, he attended the Alfalfa Club dinner.

January 28

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt to discuss the situation in the Middle East. Later, he had CIA and FBI briefings and then met with the National Security Council.

The President announced his intention to nominate Peter Terpeluk, Jr., to be Ambassador to Luxembourg.

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals as members of the President's Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans: Frank Hanna and Patricia Janette Mazzuca, who will serve as Co-Chairs upon confirmation; Micaela Alvarez; Christopher Jeffrey Barbic; Jose Guadalupe Conchola; Jamie Alfonso Escalante; Charles Patrick Garcia; Norma Sanchez Garza; Alexander Gonzalez; Miguel Angel Hernandez, Jr.; Jose Eugenio Hoyos; Francisco Jose Paret; Altagracia Ramos; Enedelia Schofield; Ofelia Saenz Vanden Bosch; Rene Vasquez; and Octavio Jesus Visiedo. The following individuals will serve as ex officio members of the Commission: Rod Paige; Hector Baretto; Paul O'Neill; and Mel Martinez.

January 29

In the morning, the President had breakfast with Speaker of the House of Representatives Dennis J. Hastert, Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, Senate Minority Leader Trent Lott, and House Minority Leader Richard A. Gephardt.

January 30

In the morning, the President had intelligence briefings. Later, he dropped by a birthday celebration for Vice President Dick Cheney in the Vice President's office in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building. In the afternoon, the President traveled to Winston-Salem, NC, and later to Daytona Beach, FL.

The White House announced that the President will travel to Monterrey, Mexico, to participate in the International Conference on Financing for Development on March 22 and to meet with President Vicente Fox of Mexico.

The White House announced that the President welcomes the visit of Prime Minister Mikhail Kasyanov of Russia to Washington, DC, and New York, NY, on January 30-February 4.

The President announced his intention to nominate Guy F. Caruso to be Administrator of the Energy Information Administration at the Department of Energy.

The President announced his intention to nominate Charles F. Bolden to be Deputy Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

January 31

In the morning, the President traveled to Atlanta, GA. In the afternoon, he returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced that Jay Lefkowitz was named Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of the Domestic Policy Council.

The President announced his intention to nominate Roger Francisco, Jose Angel Fourquet, and Adolfo Alberto Franco to be members (Government representatives) of the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation.

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals as members of the White House Commission on the National Moment of Remembrance: Blanquita Walsh Cullum, Michael Edward Reagan, Carson Ross, and Webster Aaron Two Hawk, Sr.

The President announced his intention to appoint Edwin Jacob Garn and Herbert D. Kelleher as members of the Advisory Board of the National Air and Space Museum.

February 1

In the morning, the President traveled to White Sulphur Springs, WV. In the afternoon, he traveled to Camp David, MD.

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals as members of the President's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities: Dennis Ray Boxx; Benjamin Franklin Payton; Arlene Cassandra Ackerman; Hazo William Carter, Jr.; Lawrence Arnett Davis, Jr.; Harold Emanuel Doley, Jr.; Elson Sylvester Floyd; Charles Alphonso Hines; Ernest Leon Holloway; William English Kirwan; Ronald Francis Mason, Jr.; Marie Valentine McDemmond; Bernard Joseph Milano; Girard Cecil Miller; James Carmichael Renick; Ricardo Romo; Dianne Boardley Suber; Joyce Elaine Tucker; Timothy Gregory Walker; Michael Lucius Lomax; and John Kenneth Waddell.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted January 28

Roslynn R. Mauskopf,
of New York, to be U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of New York for a term of 4 years, vice Loretta E. Lynch.

Paul I. Perez,
of Florida, to be U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of Florida for a term of 4 years, vice Donna A. Bucella.

Submitted January 30

Stephen Gilbert Fitzgerald,
of Wisconsin, to be U.S. Marshal for the Western District of Wisconsin for a term of 4 years, vice Dallas S. Neville, term expired.

J. C. Raffety,
of West Virginia, to be U.S. Marshal for the Northern District of West Virginia for a term of 4 years, vice Leonard Trupo, term expired.

James Anthony Rose,
of Wyoming, to be U.S. Marshal for the District of Wyoming for the term of 4 years, vice Juan Abran DeHerrera, term expired.

John Schickel,
of Kentucky, to be U.S. Marshal for the Eastern District of Kentucky for the term of 4 years, vice Joe Russell Mullins, resigned.

William R. Whittington,
of Louisiana, to be U.S. Marshal for the Western District of Louisiana for the term of 4 years, vice James Robert Oakes, term expired.

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released January 28

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Announcement of nominations for U.S. Attorneys for the Eastern District of New York and the Middle District of Florida

Fact sheet: Strengthening Medicare

Fact sheet: U.S. Programs To Assist the People of Afghanistan

Released January 29

Excerpts of the President's State of the Union Address

Advance text of the President's State of the Union Address

Announcement: White House Web Site Offers First Live State of the Union Webcast and Historic Look at Annual Address

Released January 30

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer and USA Freedom Corps Executive Director John Bridgeland

Statement by the Press Secretary: Visit of Russian Prime Minister Kasyanov

Statement by the Press Secretary: Presidential Waiver of Section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act

Statement by the Press Secretary on the President's upcoming visit to Monterrey, Mexico

Announcement of nominations of U.S. Marshals for the Northern District of West Virginia, the Western District of Wisconsin, the Western District of Louisiana, the Eastern District of Kentucky, and the District of Wyoming

Fact sheet: USA Freedom Corps—Citizen Corps

Announcement: Homeland Security Director To Conduct Media Briefing on Homeland Security Chapter of FY 2003 Budget

Announcement: Backgrounder on Oval Office Redecoration

Announcement: President To Discuss New Citizen Corps Initiative

Released February 1

Transcript of remarks by National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice to the Conservative Political Action Conference

Fact sheet: President Bush Calls for Action To Protect American Workers' Retirement Savings

Announcement of appointment of Director of the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

Acts Approved by the President

NOTE: No acts approved by the President were received by the Office of the Federal Register during the period covered by this issue.

Contents—Continued

Joint Statements

President George W. Bush and Chairman Hamid Karzai on a New Partnership Between the United States and Afghanistan—131

Meetings With Foreign Leaders

Afghan Interim Authority, Chairman Karzai—127, 131
Germany, Chancellor Schroeder—161
Jordan, King Abdullah II—161

Statements by the President

Death of Michael Hammond—133
National economy—147

Supplementary Materials

Acts approved by the President—172
Checklist of White House press releases—171
Digest of other White House announcements—169
Nominations submitted to the Senate—170

US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS
Washington DC 20402

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty for private use, $300

PRESORTED STANDARD
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
GPO
PERMIT NO. G-26

**********3-DIGIT 481

A PD COLVI346B DEC 02 R
BONNIE COLVIN
C/O BELL & HOWELL
PO BOX 1346
ANN ARBOR MI 48106